

Battle to find Murray's successor

By Barrie Clement
Labour Reporter

The search for a new general secretary of the TUC got under way last night after the surprise announcement that Mr Len Murray is to retire early.

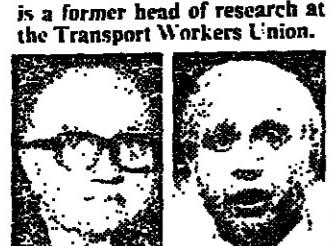
Jockeying for position has started, but there are 11 weeks to go before the deadline for nominations expires on July 16, and new candidates are certain to enter the field.

The claims of several leading contenders for the position, drawn from within the TUC headquarters and from the wider labour movement were last night being discussed, and brief details are given below.



At increasing prominent right-winger on the general council has been Mr Alistair Graham (left), aged 41, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, the largest civil service union. His candidature however would be contentious and fiercely opposed by the left.

Mr Murray succeeded to the leadership from the deputy general secretary's job: the present deputy, Mr Norman Willis (right), aged 51, is likely to have a similar ambition. He is a former head of research at the Transport Workers Union.



One of the prominent "insiders" who could run for the leadership is Mr Ken Graham (left), assistant general secretary, but at 61 he may feel that the chance has passed him by.

Mr Gavin Laird (right), aged 51, the moderate secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering Workers, has been much in the shadow of the union's president, Mr Terence Duffy. But his deference has not been caused by any lack of ambition



Mr Tony Christopher (left), leader of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation, has made no secret of his ambition to become general secretary of the TUC. Firmly on the right of the movement, he has established himself as a polished television performer.

Mr David Lea (right), aged 46, one of the two assistant general secretaries, is expected to stand for election by the congress. He has been a joint secretary of the TUC-Labour Party Liaison Committee since 1972.

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Huge costs for hotels as right to a single TV licence goes

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government is to remove the privilege that allows hotels to have all the television sets on their premises covered by a single licence.

Changes that will cost the hotel trade many millions of pounds are expected to be announced soon by Ministers: a new scale of fees will mean hoteliers having to take out licences for a given number of sets.

It is expected that the number of sets to be covered on one licence will be fewer than five. That would mean that hotels, such as the Savoy in London, which have more than 200 rooms with colour televisions at present covered by one £46 licence would have to take out more than 40 licences.

Action was foreshadowed in a letter sent last night by the Prime Minister to Mr Max Madden, Labour MP for Bradford West.

He told him that Home Office ministers felt that the present arrangements were not satisfactory and are considering whether hotels should pay fees which bear some relationship to the number of television sets which are installed in guests' rooms.

The British Hotels, Restaurants, and Caterers Association disclosed last night that it had had two meetings with Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Office minister responsible for broadcasting.

VAT relief on heritage buildings

By Christopher Warman, Sale Room Correspondent

Listed buildings, including historic and stately homes, are to be excluded from the Government's proposals to charge 15 per cent value-added tax on building alterations. Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at the Treasury, announced in the House of Commons yesterday.

The tax is due to take effect on June 1, but the proposed concession will not apply to buildings in conservation areas which are not themselves listed.

The government's change of mind followed strong pressure from amenity groups, such as Save Britain's Heritage, and came after Mr Michael Latham, Conservative MP for Rutland and Melton, had put down an amendment to the Finance Bill seeking exemption for churches, listed and historic buildings.

Mr Latham had argued that zero rating would help to preserve Britain's heritage of fine architecture. The Historic Buildings Commission estimated that the concession would cost the Exchequer only £20m of the estimated £450m yield from the tax, he said.

Mr Hayhoe told the Commons, during a debate on the committee stage of the Bill, that the Government would consider a concession to exclude listed buildings between now and the report stage.

The rejected realist, page 10

£25,900 for sconces at Belton

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A pair of Queen Anne silver sconces or candleholders which formed part of the original furnishings of Belton House in Lincolnshire, were sold in Christie's sale there yesterday for £25,920 (estimate £15,000-£25,000) to a Continental dealer.

The magnificent Restoration house was built by Sir John Brownlow and completed about 1688.

The sconces each have handsome armorial back plate and a curved arm to hold the candle in front of it. They bear the maker's mark of Phillip Rollis.

Pictures from the Brownlow collections made up yesterday afternoon's sale. The Dutch paintings which had been bought in The Netherlands in 1754 by Sir Henry Banks, father-in-law of the first Baron Brownlow, secured the top prices. An "Interior with a Cavalier", by Gerrit Lundens, went for £48,600 (estimate £15,000-£25,000) to J. Van Haefen, a London dealer.

In London on Monday the Shell City Art Gallery secured a group of four cartoons of the Beatles. They were painted in acrylic emulsion on celluloid for the Beatles' film *The Yellow Submarine*. "George" and "Ringo" cost the museum £300 apiece.

Mr Michael Ogden, QC, for the Mercers' Company, said the proposed tower building was far too high and its acceptance would make proposals for other tall buildings around St Paul's Cathedral difficult to resist.

After the siege

Flowers for victims as life resumes

By Michael Hornsall

A bunch of bluebells and daffodils in a glass vase was yesterday placed by an elderly woman, close to the spot where police officer Yvonne Fletcher died two weeks ago, as life began its slow return to normal in St James's Square.

Police completed their initial search of the Libyan People's Bureau and the huge blue tarpaulins which have blocked all entrances to the square came down. Office workers were allowed to return to their desks.

Only the eight buildings on either side of the bureau at the northern end of the square remained cordoned off, but a sympathetic constable allowed the woman to slip under the white tape with her floral tribute which she said should be replaced by a permanent memorial.

Tourists looking for bullet marks on the street nearly outnumbered the police as Operation Mars, the most complex of its kind carried out in Britain, neared its frustrating end with the removal of electronic equipment from No 2 St James's Square where headquarters was established within 30 minutes of the shooting.

The premises house the offices of D'Arcy-MacManus and Masius, the advertising agency situated three doors away from the Libyan People's Bureau, a huge interlocking double-building which stretches halfway down Charles II Street.

Save for a few scuff marks on the brown carpet of room 107, the first floor office had been occupied by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Edgar Maybank, aged 51, the police officer in charge of Operation Mars. There was little indication that here had been the nerve centre of a murder inquiry.

At the outset the company's two connecting buildings were cleared by police and staff were dispersed to its sister agency in Berkeley Street, and to rooms cleared for them at the offices of account clients.

The next day, however, after lengthy negotiations, many of the staff were allowed back into rooms accessible from Charles II Street, though not to the offices fronting St James's Square.

"But the police were tremendously efficient and most courteous, very cool and clear and purposeful. There was no question that they knew what



Another President with clay figures in a tomb

City tower 'obsession' under fire

By John Young

One man's "obsession" to create a lasting monument to modernism in the heart of the City of London was assailed by lawyers representing the City Corporation, the Greater London Council and the Mercers' Company at the opening of a public inquiry at Guildhall yesterday.

The inquiry is into an appeal against the rejection of planning permission for a redevelopment scheme close to the Mansion House, which would include a 20-storey tower block designed by the late Mies van der Rohe.

Mr Jeremy Sullivan, QC, for the corporation said that, although it had approved a similar scheme 15 years ago, it had now come round to the view that the scheme was wholly inappropriate. Its change of mind reflected a change in public opinion, which was now in favour of conservation and against the comprehensive redevelopment of historic city centres.

"The brave new world that we were promised by certain architects and planners has been found to be sadly wanting in scale, individuality, ornament and vitality," he said.

Mr Raymond Sears, QC, for the GLC, said that the dream of the appellant, Mr Peter Palumbo, "which of course has become an obsession, should not be permitted to become a reality".

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Mr Michael Ogden, QC, for the Mercers' Company, said the proposed tower building was far too high and its acceptance would make proposals for other tall buildings around St Paul's Cathedral difficult to resist.

Officials of the Scottish TUC are understood to have spent the day in negotiations to force the National Union of Miners workers to increase its coal limit and to patch-up what threatens to be a serious rift.

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London summit security to be reviewed in wake of Libyan crisis

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The shooting in St James's Square and continuing Anglo-Libyan crisis has prompted security chiefs once more to review arrangements for the protection of world leaders at next month's economic summit in London. Pressure on them to do so is expected from Washington where the Reagan Administration is trying to mobilize support among the allies for a united front against Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader.

Memories of anti-American violence in Lebanon and Iran also make President Reagan's bodyguards nervous in a country like Britain where they are not allowed to carry guns.

This jitters are unlikely to be wholly removed by the disclosure early last month that up to 12 SAS-style Heckler and Koch sub-machine guns have been ordered for Metropolitan police on special protection duties during the summit meeting on June 7-9.

In terms of news coverage as well as security the summit promises to be the biggest public event in London since

Professor seeks end to 'harping' on GCHQ

By Peter Hennessy

Professor Harry Hinsley, Master of St John's College, Cambridge, and official historian of British intelligence in the Second World War, appealed yesterday for newspapers to stop "perpetually harping" on the activities of the Government Communications Headquarters.

Quality newspapers treated intelligence as if it were the equivalent of pornography for titillating the middle class reader, he said.

Speaking on the eve of the publication of the third volume of his *British Intelligence in the Second World War*, Professor Hinsley said that he was amazed that the D-notice system had not prevented editors from constantly publishing material on British signals intelligence.

Professor Hinsley said that his previous volumes, which showed the vital part played by the Government Code and Cypher School, the precursor of GCHQ, in shortening the Second World War had failed in the sense that people had not, as a consequence, appreciated the need for maximum confidentiality in such matters in peace as in war.

Professor Hinsley: Plea to common sense

"It is getting dangerous. If it is not stopped voluntarily now by newspapers, we are in for trouble. I am appealing to Dr Carney for the doctor for a long time", Counsel added.

Psychiatrist cleared of assault

Dr Michael Carney, aged 53, a consultant psychiatrist, of Mount Park Road, Harrow on the Hill, north-west London, was cleared by St Albans Crown Court yesterday of indecently assaulting Mrs Karen Taylor, aged 28, his book-keeper, in a consulting room at a private clinic in Harrow on the Hill.

Mr Bernard Hargrove, QC, for the defence, said that there had been ill feeling between them over fees owed to Dr Carney by the clinic. Mrs Taylor had been "out to make trouble for the doctor for a long time", Counsel added.

Sewage heat for offices

What is believed to be the world's first system for extracting heat commercially from sewage was opened yesterday in Wellington, Somerset, by the Wessex Water Authority.

The heat produced by the bacterial breakdown of sewage raises the temperature of water via heat exchange panels, to 13°C. The water is then pumped to offices near by at an estimated average saving in fuel costs of £1,500 a year.

Car gems raid

Pearls, diamonds and gold necklaces worth £35,000 were stolen from the boot of a London company director's car in Kingsbury Square, Aylesbury, on Monday.

Reeby pulled in front of him and slowed down. Each time Mr Hill tried to overtake Reeby decreased speed.

The motorcyclists hemmed Mr Hill in, forcing him to stop, then Reeby punched Mr Hill in the face, breaking his dentures and causing severe cuts

Hattersley's driver hit

A motorcyclist was fined £75 by Tiverton magistrates in Devon yesterday after admitting assaulting Mr Roy Hattersley's driver in a roadside incident.

Miss Pam Phipps, for the prosecution, told the magistrates that the Labour Party's assistant regional organizer, Mr Roy Hill, was driving Mr Hattersley, the Labour Party's deputy leader, between Plymouth and Exeter. Mr Hill

overtook three motorcyclists including Paul Reeby, aged 19, a machine operator, of Pentland Close, Plymouth.

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Law Report May 2 1984 Privy Council

Withdrawal of consent during intercourse means rape

Kaitamaki v The Queen

Before Lord Scarman, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Birmingham and Sir George Baker [Judgment delivered May 1]

By the criminal law of New Zealand if a man penetrated a woman with her consent he could still become guilty of rape by continuing the sexual intercourse after a stage when he realized that she was no longer consenting.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in dismissing an appeal by the appellant, Tamakai Kaitamaki, from the majority decision of the Court of Appeal of New Zealand on March 19, 1980, who dismissed his appeal against his conviction by a jury in the Supreme Court of New Zealand on March 15, 1979, of rape.

Section 127 of the Crimes Act 1961 provides: "For the purposes of this Part of this Act, sexual intercourse is complete upon penetration."

Section 128 provides: "(1) Rape is the act of a male person having sexual intercourse with a woman or girl - (a) Without her consent; or

Mr Barry MacLean (of the New Zealand Bar) for the appellant, Mr Peter Thornton and Mr Robert Fardell (Crown Counsel, New Zealand) for the Crown.

LORD SCARMAN said that in the early hours of November 19, 1978, the appellant broke into a dwelling-house. The Crown case was that he then twice raped a young woman who was an occupier of the premises. There was no dispute that the incidents had taken place on two occasions, but the defense was that she consented, or that he honestly believed she was consenting.

When the appellant gave evidence, his case as to the second occasion was that after he had penetrated her for the second time he became aware that she was not consenting. He admitted, however, that he did not desist from intercourse.

In summing up that part of the

case the trial judge told the jury that if, having realized she was not willing, the accused continued with the act of intercourse, it then became rape. It was contended that that direction was wrong in law.

The submission of the appellant's counsel raised a question as to whether section 127 of the Crimes Act 1961, he relied on the definition in section 127 to establish the proposition that rape was penetration without consent; that once penetration was complete the act of rape was concluded; and that intercourse, if it continued, was not rape, because if it was the purpose of the Act it was complete upon penetration.

The Court of Appeal, by a majority, rejected the submission, expressing the opinion that the purpose of section 127 was to remove any doubts as to the minimum conduct needed to prove the fact of sexual intercourse.

"Complete" was used in the statutory definition in the sense of having come into existence, but not in the sense of being at an end. Sexual intercourse was a continuing act which only ended with withdrawal. The offence of rape was defined in section 128 as that of

Solicitors: Wray, Smith & Co; Allen & Overy.

Absolute obligation

Associated Bulk Carriers Ltd v Shell International Petroleum Company Ltd

In the "Shelvay 3" form charter party that the master was bound to keep the tanks, pipes and pumps of a vessel always clean for the cargo specified in the charter-party imposed an absolute obligation on the owners, Mr Justice Neill held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on April 18, giving judgment for the defendant owners of the "Nordic Navigator" for US \$118,044 demurrage due to them from the charterers, Shell International Petroleum Company Ltd.

MR LORDSHIP said that the term contrasted with the obligation

of cleanliness under article III, rule 1(c) of the Hague Rules and another clause which required the owners to "exercise diligence". The omission of those words from this term indicated that the owners' obligation to achieve the standard imposed was absolute.

However, that standard had to be related to the cargo for which the charterparty provided. As the specified cargo had been "crude oil and/or dirty petroleum products" intended for burning in power stations, the presence of a small quantity of coal in the tanks, which could not have damaged a power station's burners or any other equipment, did not amount to a breach of the absolute obligation.

No charges have been made



Bad sport: A gunman bursts into the European wrestling championships in Jonkoping, Sweden, with the fighters initially unaware of his presence. But the man was later identified as a Soviet exile and his weapon as a harmless toy pistol.

Israel prepares case against UK oil ban

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israel is about to take legal moves to help to break what senior officials claim is a *de facto* British embargo on supplies of crude oil from the North Sea.

The ban was imposed in 1979 and maintained out of concern in Whitehall not to upset Arab oil producers. The British have repeatedly stated that the refusal to sell oil to Israel is not discriminatory but part of a wider policy on disposal of North Sea oil.

Israel's anger at the ban has been reinforced by the refusal of the Thatcher Government to lift it given that Norway, the other main North Sea oil producer, lifted a similar ban more than 12 months ago.

Britain has stated that many other countries are adversely affected by the same policy – originally formulated by Mr Tony Benn when he was Energy Secretary – but do not complain about it.

The ban was raised by Israel's new President, Mr Chaim Herzog, during his recent visit to London, but he failed to secure any hint of a compromise from the British authorities.

Later this month Mr Mayer Gabai, Director-General of the Justice Ministry, will spend a week in London seeking advice from experts in EEC law before deciding how Israel will act in a complex case which has been referred to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. Final submissions are due in July.

Although the dispute in the first instance is between private

firms, Bulk Oil (ZUG) and Sun Oil Trading Company, the British Government has already intervened directly and failed to block the move the challenge the ban's validity under EEC law.

Last December, the High Court in London held that rulings by the European Court were needed to enable the English courts to rule on a dispute that arose from a refusal to load a cargo of oil at the Sulmum Voe terminal in Shetland because it was destined for Israel.

Altogether, six companies were involved in the deal, in which the Swiss-based Bulk Oil ordered the crude on behalf of Delek, an Israeli petroleum group. Delek arranged for it to be transported by Tanker Services.

It is now understood that Israel is considering intervening in the case by submitting its

own opinion before the Luxembourg court. The European justices will be asked whether the 1975 treaty between the EEC and Israel precluded an embargo by member states on exports of crude oil to Israel and whether British policy is compatible with the treaty.

The incident that gave rise to the case occurred when Israel lost one of its main oil suppliers with the overthrow of the Shah of Iran.

Mr Gabai, a civil servant educated at the London School of Economics, told *The Times*: "It is much more important for us to have a long-term, stable agreement with a reliable country like the UK, rather than buying oil from 'other sources' or the spot market."

"We feel that Britain's policy is not justified on commercial merits alone. We suspect that the ban is the result of Arab influence, as oil is a sensitive commodity as far as the Arabs are concerned. Our main interest is to determine that there will be no discrimination of supply against us from the EEC, which we understand to be a part of the 1975 treaty."

Britain's oil export guidelines, which will be tested at the Luxembourg hearing, state that unless there is an established pattern of trade in oil with another country, Britain's oil should be sold only to countries that are either in the EEC or the International Energy Agency, the 21-member club of oil-consuming nations established in 1973, of which Israel is not a member.

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Walesa defies riot police in Gdansk

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

Lech Walesa, the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, smuggled himself into a sedate Communist May Day march yesterday in Gdansk and, with hundreds of Solidarity supporters, flashed v-for-victory signs, unfurled anti-government banners and chanted "freedom for political prisoners" while passing a Tribune of shocked party officials.

The incident was typical of a day which saw thousands of supporters of the banned Solidarity Union trying either to infiltrate official processions or stage counter-rallies in several Polish cities.

Using high-pressure bursts of water, tear gas broadsides and rubber batons, the Zomo riot police dispersed the demonstrators, sometimes without resistance, sometimes encountering a volley of cobblestones.

In Gdansk, the police stationed a huge water cannon, as ungraciously as a prehistoric animal, outside the apartment of Mr Walesa to break up a demonstration of about 1,000.

"I'm surrounded here at home", Mr Walesa said on the telephone. "And they are chasing people with water cannons. They washed my windows right now and they are drenching anyone who leans out of his window".

The street fighting was heavy in the Gdansk suburb of Wrzeszcz, near the former headquarters of Solidarity. Youths tore up stones from the railway track to use against the Zomo who, by most eyewitness accounts, were tougher there than elsewhere in Poland.

Mr Walesa had managed to carry out his infiltration mission by squeezing himself and his supporters between two Communist factory delegations and pretending to be authorized participants. The police eventually moved in and seized Solidarity protestors a few yards behind him but left the Solidarity leader unscathed. He was effectively organizing his first street protest since martial law.

The mood of the day was best expressed in Warsaw where, a few hundred yards away from the official march, the demonstration began after nine o'clock Mass at St John's Cathedral in the centre of the old town district.

At 9.45 the police sealed off most streets to prevent the congregation spilling into Castle Square. But five minutes later leaflets flew from the rooftops and a teenager, to loud applause, fixed a Solidarity flag to a lampost.

The police called on the crowd to disperse and began to bang their riot shields.

The crowd, more than a thousand strong, chanted "freedom for the prisoners", "Lech Walesa" and the name of the Warsaw underground leader, "Zbigniew Bujak".

When the police started to spray water, the protesters, teenagers and middle-aged women, tumbled out of the narrow alleys into the pictureque old market square. For many minutes one corner of the square was completely occupied by armoured riot police swinging their white batons, while the opposite corner was filled with shouting demonstrators.

In between, many people continued to drink coffee and eat ice-cream in the sunshine, making the use of tear gas impossible.

Later the protesters walked the two miles to the church of St Stanislaw Kostka to hear the radical priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko. The congregation was again assaulted by police after the service and tried to regroup near the Warsaw steelworks. That march was also broken up with bursts from water cannon and running, truncheon-waving police.

Celebrating May Day across the globe with tear gas, marches, slogans and rivalry



Workers in Red Square carry a photograph of President Chernenko addressing Parliament while he waves to the May Day crowd.

Chernenko and old guard conduct it with aplomb

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mayday celebrations in Moscow yesterday confirmed the growing personality cult surrounding President Chernenko and the ascendancy of the Kremlin "old guard". The Red Square parade also marked political oblivion for the late President Andropov, who died less than three months ago.

With Moscow a sea of rippling red flags, thousands of well-drilled workers marched past the Lenin Mausoleum under a sunny spring sky, bearing giant portraits of Mr Chernenko and blow-ups of the *Pravda* report of his meeting with steelworkers last Sunday.

There were also huge placards attacking American nuclear policy, including a giant Uncle Sam with Mr Reagan's features, although the anti-American theme was rather more muted than last year.

Mr Chernenko's absence from last year's parade gave rise to speculation about his political future. Yesterday, there was no doubt that whatever the extent of the real power he wields behind the scenes, he is the unchallenged national figurehead. Slogans curied from his speeches dominated the procession.

There was also deliberate emphasis on the old guard of Politburo leaders who backed his bid for power and who control much of Soviet policy. Marshal Ustinov, Mr Gromyko and Mr Tikhonov - the Defence, Foreign and Prime Ministers - followed Mr Chernenko onto the top of the mausoleum. All but the marshal wore the same heavy overcoat and beret hat, the regulation issue Politburo spring outfit.

In some parts of Moscow the three senior men also followed Mr Chernenko in the rows of Politburo portraits hung from public buildings, even though strictly speaking the portraits should be in Russian alphabetical order (as they were on Red Square), with the young generation of Mr Aliyev, Mr Vorotnikov and Mr Gorbachov following the President.

Little solidarity among workers of Europe

By Our Foreign Staff

May Day, traditionally a date marking workers' solidarity, failed to produce much fellow feeling in Western Europe.

West Germany: Trade union and opposition leaders warned Chancellor Kohl that there would be strikes if demands for a shorter working week were ignored.

This year's sharp focus on unemployment contrasted starkly with the concentration last year on the campaign against deployment of nuclear missiles in West Germany.

Italy: The three main trade union confederations held separate celebrations, showing the deep split in the labour movement over the Government's attempts to cut inflation.

Spain: Tens of thousands took part in rival rallies organized by the country's two majority trade unions who are split over the Socialist Government's industry policies.

Dominican Republic: The 55 victims of riots against food price rises were mourned as the five main unions pledged to organize a general strike unless the Government revoked price hikes.

Singapore: Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, said motorists should be encouraged to work to help phase out foreign labour over the next eight years. About 10 per cent of the island's workforce are foreigners.

Czechoslovakia: President Husak, at the main rally in Prague, condemned American imperialism and accused Washington of launching a new round of the arms race.

Greece: Workers demanded better working conditions, more trade union freedom and higher wages. Work in both private and public sectors was at a standstill.

Bikini islanders ask Washington to keep 30-year promise

From Our Correspondent
Washington

One thousand Pacific islanders have begun a final effort to return to their tiny Bikini Atoll home which the US contaminated with 12 years of atomic and hydrogen bomb tests after the Second World War.

The people of Bikini, a circular chain of 26 islands about 2,500 miles south-west of Hawaii, claim that the US has a moral and legal obligation to clean up their home and help them return to what they have

described as their "promised land". The Bikinians live on Kili island, a 200-acre dot in the Pacific 400 miles south-east of Bikini, which they call a prison. The US set up a \$6m (£4.28m) trust for them giving each person \$35 a month.

This week their representatives began a campaign to plead their case in court, in Congress and later at the UN in New York to make the US live up to a promise the islanders say it made 30 years ago.

A suit filed in Hawaii by the islanders this week sought an injunction requiring the US to make Bikini Atoll safe and return the exiles speedily to their home. The Bikinians hope to testify before Congress.

They also plan to appear before the UN Trusteeship Council in an attempt to get the world body to apply further pressure on the US Government. Bikini and the rest of the Marshall Islands were put under US administration by the UN in 1947.

Manila court asked to dismiss priests' case

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Lawyers of three jailed Roman Catholic priests - including an Australian and an Irish missionary - have asked the Central Philippine Court, trying them on multiple murder charges, to dismiss the case due to lack of evidence.

In their 17-page motion, the seven lawyers said that never in their "collective experience have [they] encountered so irregular an investigation in a case of such importance as this".

The lawyers also denounced the "many anomalies and irregularities" in the murder investigation, including the "loss" of military and police notes on the ambush. "Such a loss, in a case as important as this, is explainable only by the need to suppress facts that could turn out to be inconvenient to the military. Coincidentally - or was it intentionally? - the sketch, photographs and other investigative notes of the Kabankalan police taken or made on the day of the ambush... all have been lost."

Included in their submission were about 30 affidavits. Most confirmed that the Irish priest, Father Niall O'Brien, was in Manila and two nearby cities when he and Father Brian Gore from Australia were alleged to have planned the ambush and driven the gunmen to the site.

Communist rebels of the New People's Army (NPA), in

two pamphlets distributed after the killings, claimed responsibility and this was confirmed by two captured rebels during military interrogation.

"Although there was no evidence against any of the defendants, and there was abundant evidence - including confessions - against some members of the NPA, neither the military nor the Kabankalan (police) filed any case against anyone for the ambush of Mayor Sola and his co-conspirators."

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Each court will be chaired by a civilian magistrate, with two officers of the regular forces, including the armed forces, the police and the prison services as members.

Gangsters murder minister in Bogotá

From Geoffrey Matthews
Bogotá

President Betancur yesterday imposed a state of siege throughout Colombia after the assassination of his Justice Minister by gunmen believed to have been hired by drug rackets.

Señor Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, who had waged a personal crusade against the "Colombian connexion" drug racket, was hit by 11 bullets in an ambush as he arrived by car at his home in Bogotá.

The shots were fired by the pillion passenger of a passing motor cycle. Security agents pursued it, killing one rider and capturing the other. The detained youth comes from Medellín, the financial centre of the drug Mafios.

He is reported to have said he was paid about \$20,000 (£13,300) for the attack. No one has yet claimed responsibility.

The killing of Señor Lara Bonilla, who had received many death threats, but had scored wearing a bullet-proof vest offered by the United States Embassy in Bogotá, shocked the nation.

Imposing the state of siege, a shaken President Betancur said on national television: "We are not going to allow ourselves to be annihilated by cowardice and crime... they are not going to continue destroying our society."

He promised that the Government would continue its campaign to stamp out the cocaine and marijuana rackets.

In March Señor Betancur imposed a state of siege in four southern departments after a wave of guerrilla actions by the M19 movement and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

At the time the Government said the guerrillas were being financed by cocaine rackets.

Although Taiwan remains a big obstacle, limiting the pace of improved relations, his visit appears to have achieved, in Mr Reagan's words, "an understanding and a confidence in us".

The President's visit was not all plain sailing, however, as no attempt was made to disguise differences over Taiwan, US policy towards Central America, or the deployment of new American missiles in Western Europe. Nor did the Chinese go along with the Western European.

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The Chinese television twice censored anti-Soviet passages from his speeches. And during the talks Chinese leaders emphasized their independence and made it clear that they intended to keep trying to improve relations with Moscow.

Possibly the greatest achievement of the visit, however, was its impact on the US electorate. Long before Mr Reagan set out on his journey his campaign strategists had been saying the visit would be an important feature of his reelection effort.

Reagan proclaims success of his pilgrimage

From Nicholas Ashford,
Washington

President Reagan returned to American soil yesterday proclaiming that his six-day trip to China had been a success and had established a "new level of understanding" between Washington and Peking.

Arriving in Fairbanks, Alaska, where he is to have a 30-minute meeting with the Pope today, the President said that although fundamental differences existed between the two countries "we found that we could agree on a great many things".

Despite the absence of any significant diplomatic breakthroughs, American officials seem well satisfied with the way the visit went - a view that seems to be shared by Mr Reagan's Chinese hosts.

While in Peking Mr Reagan signed agreements on taxation, cultural exchanges and nuclear energy cooperation. A more important if less tangible result was to allay Chinese doubts about his commitment to a strong relationship with Peking.

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They believed that this pilgrimage to Peking would project him in the mantle of a major world statesman, standing aloof from thrust and parry of domestic political battles.

This is how it turned out. While he was raising a glass in the Great Hall of the People to toast world peace, the two main rivals for the Democratic Presidential nomination, Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart, were tearing each other apart in Texas and Tennessee.

His performance in Peking also helped to deflect his opponents' criticism that the world has become a more dangerous place under his presidency. He was able to show that although he remains at loggerheads with the Soviet Union he is able to deal effectively with the world's other big communist power.

The Chinese have a vested interest in seeing Mr Reagan reelected and won't let their way to ensure that the visit was a political triumph for him. Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, telephoned him before he left and congratulated him on the success of his visit.

Ties stronger despite lukewarm Peking

From David Benavia, Peking

President Reagan left Shanghai for home yesterday after a week-long visit to China in which he was treated with courtesy but not enthusiasm.

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, who has had intensive talks with Mr Reagan, did not even accompany Mr and Mrs Reagan to Shanghai, China's biggest industrial city, as he was attending a rally in Peking linked to International Labour Day.

The most cordial reception was accorded the Reagans by Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese elder statesman, last weekend. He invited Mrs Reagan to come to China again, and to bring her grandchildren.

China won a considerable increase in its access to American technology, especially to nuclear power for peaceful uses, as an aspect of the presidential visit. But Mr Reagan was not permitted to tell the Chinese people - as he tried - about his idea that American society is based on God and religion, and that free enterprise is the best road to economic prosperity.

Observers believe that the main political achievement of the visit was the swift acceptance of an invitation to Mr Hu Yaobang, the general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, to visit the US.

The best description of the visit would be that it took place in weak spring sunshine, with occasional showers - which is how Peking's weatherman greeted the American party.

Leading article, page 11

Shaky Beirut Cabinet meets today

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Lebanon's Prime Minister-designate, Mr Rashid Karim, intends to hold his first full cabinet meeting today despite continuing uncertainty over whether all nine ministers he has named will take part.

Mr Karim's surprise announcement late on Monday night that he had selected a new Cabinet was a calculated gamble given that he admitted he had not formally consulted the nominees to determine whether they were willing to serve.

And while seven of those appointed had agreed yesterday, the participation of two key Lebanese leaders - Mr Walid

US general killed while 'testing top secret jet'

Washington (Reuters) An Air Force general who died in a Nevada crash last week was flying a plane testing top secret new "Stealth" technology meant to make United States fighters and bombers invisible to enemy radar, *The Washington Post* reported.

Quoting informed sources, the newspaper said details surrounding the death on Thursday of Lieutenant General Robert Bond, a highly-decorated veteran fighter pilot, in a small jet plane were being guarded by senior Air Force officials.

The stealth project was begun in 1977 to develop radically new kinds of military aircraft that could penetrate the Soviet Union's anti-aircraft defences.

Liberals lead

Ottawa (Reuters) Canada's ruling Liberal Party, whose popularity has slumped during Mr Pierre Trudeau's last term of office, has overtaken the opposition Conservatives in an opinion poll for the first time in two and a half years. The poll showed the Liberals with 46 per cent and the Conservatives 40 per cent.

Arab honoured

Tel Aviv (AFP) - For the first time an Arab Israeli has been nominated one of seven "exemplary citizens" who each year light the torch of independence to mark the Israeli National Day on May 8. He is Ali Yehia, aged 33.

Ethnic violence

Colombo (Reuters) - A Sri Lankan policeman was shot dead by suspected guerrillas in the eastern town of Kalutara and the National Security Minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, revealed that a Tamil leader had been shot dead by police last week "while trying to escape from custody".

US general
killed while
testing top
secret jet

Guerrillas retreat as Soviet forces push through Panjshir valley

From Michael Hanley, Delhi

Ahmed Shah Masood, regarded by Western diplomats as the Afghan rebels' most effective and attractive young leader, has made a tactical withdrawal from the key Panjshir valley before a massive Soviet advance there.

The Soviet incursion into the valley, details of which are only now emerging, was described by diplomats in Delhi yesterday as the biggest military operation since the invasion four years ago.

According to the official Afghan media, the "last nests of the professional criminal, Ahmed Shah Masood, have been destroyed," after the Soviet onslaught.

Western diplomats, however, insisted that Masood had withdrawn from the valley two days before the attack began.

If he had been captured alive or dead - the regime would have been sure to have made a production number of it, one diplomat said.

The diplomats add that he had not intended to withdraw before the attack but the arrest of some agents belonging to Khat, the Afghan secret police, high in his command structure, and even including one of his cousins, made him realize that his pattern of operation was too well known for his own safety.

The Soviet invasion of the valley, which plunges 70 miles deep into the Hindu Kush and dominates the main road to Kabul south of the Salang pass, was sparked off by Masood's refusal to continue a year-long peace treaty with the Russians, which had allowed him free movement in and out of the valley and let the Russians hold a small garrison there.

When the treaty was not renewed both sides began to prepare for the resumption of hostilities but the key moment came when a convoy of fuel and food bound for Kabul was ambushed on the road from Salang.

Eyewitness reports say that the road for two miles was littered with wrecked vehicles at



Ahmed Masood: Withdrawn before the attack

Hunters stranded during Canadian seal cull

From John Best Ottawa

Spring has come as a mixed blessing this year to Canada's east coast island province of Newfoundland.

Shiftng pack ice, some of it pushed ashore by passing North Atlantic icebergs, has locked in long stretches of the 300-mile eastern shore of the island from St John's, the capital, north to Labrador.

An exceptionally severe winter in Canada's Atlantic regions is undoubtedly responsible for the unusual conditions, which for the past week have played havoc with shipping and isolated some communities.

A man died - apparently of natural causes - on one of 11 fishing boats that were trapped for about a week near the Horse Islands, off Newfoundland's north-east coast.

In Trinity Bay, 75 miles west of St John's, 33 seal hunters were stranded on an ice-flow for most of a day after shifting winds broke up a field of ice across which they had been scampering to reach a seal herd. Another shift in the wind eventually blew them back to shore.



Spanish judges accused

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

The Spanish Supreme Court has agreed to try one of its own members, along with another judge, in a case arising from the unexpected release of a Mafia leader, who was awaiting the outcome of an Italian extradition request, according to reports published in Madrid yesterday.

The Supreme Court justice, Señor Jaime Rodríguez Hermida, was accused of corruption and of involvement in a miscarriage of justice. The other

The corruption charge is related to a gold bracelet

Climbdown on Nato frigate

US forced to compromise

From Frederick Bouhart, Brussels

The Nato frigate project will proceed as planned because the United States has unconditionally withdrawn its initial qualifications to the previously-agreed memorandum of understanding. Mr David Abshire, the US permanent representative to Nato, formally signed the memorandum on Monday, allowing the feasibility study for a common Nato frigate replacement for the 1990s (NFR90) to go ahead.

Mr Peter Antico, a spokesman for the American delegation, told *The Times* that in view of the unfavourable reaction of the other partners in the project - Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands and Spain - the US Department of Defence was able to overcome the legal impediments which had been holding up agreement. On the instructions of Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Sec-

retary, all eight reservations were withdrawn and the memo as originally agreed was signed.

The Nato frigate project had been one of the success stories in the long and frequently unfruitful search by Nato and member states to produce equipment in common. A number of allied navies were able to align their replacement.

They accepted there should be common hull variants for the different tasks of the frigate. These are anti-submarine warfare, air defence and convoy protection. The hulls will be able to accommodate important equipment such as engines, weapon systems and command and control installations in module form.

This would give maximum operational flexibility and scope for the economic and industrial interests of countries involved as all of them would be able to take part in the production at some stage. The sharing of technical "know-how" is considered a big step forward.

The European reaction to the objections is considered an important aspect which could have far-reaching consequences. "Three years ago, the Europeans would have accepted them without a murmur," an official said, "but there is a very different spirit now."

This last point caused the problem. Although the project had been going for more than two years and negotiations had been successfully concluded after 18 months, the US produced eight last-minute qualifications at the signing ceremony on April 11 which would have nullified the agreement. These concerned the safeguarding of American "intellectual property" while requiring access to that of the other parties. "Heads we win, tails you lose," one European official said.

By their unconditional withdrawal of these qualifications, the Americans have given a fair wind to the project.

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OVERSEAS NEWS/ARTS

THE ARTS



Grande dame of *The Golden Age*: Irene Worth with Jeff Daniels and Stockard Channing

Theatre in New York

Controversy surrounds Tony rules

This is the time of year to start working out odds for the Tony nominations. Often there is a scrap over the chosen few; this season a big one has taken place weeks before the nominations are even announced. The committee which rules on Tony eligibility has stuck to a 1982 ruling that a Broadway theatre is defined by its number of seats rather than by its locale or union contracts. Thus, *... and a Nightingale Sang and Painting Churches*, playing in traditionally Broadway locations and under Equity Broadway contracts but in theatres seating fewer than the committee-mandated 499, were denied eligibility in spite of impassioned pleas and petitions by theatre professionals.

The eligibility committee blunder recalls another last year when it ruled that Kathy Bates and Anne Pitoniak could not be jointly nominated for *Night Mother*. Because they were truly inseparable, their individual nominations almost surely dissipated votes and lost them the award.

Now a similar injustice has occurred with *... and a Nightingale Sang*, which would certainly have garnered a Best Actress nomination - and possibly the award - for the newcomer Joan Allen's radiant portrayal of C. P. Taylor's heroine. There is no performance on any stage in town to equal Miss Allen's, and she has simply been robbed.

The arbitrariness of these rulings galls most, for previously two actors were jointly nominated - and won - for *Sister Banski is Dead*, and David Play's *Streamers* was nominated as Best Play when it ran in the very theatre now housing *... and a Nightingale Sang*. Whose "liberal" conscience dictates that it is permissible for black South African actors and anti-war dramatis to compete for Tonys but that superlative white actresses in non-political plays do not receive the same opportunities? Such inequities are a disgrace.

Better news is that *Glenarry Glen Ross* has arrived at the Golden Theatre, been

acclaimed David Mamet's best work yet, and looks like serious competition for *The Real Thing* as Best Play. It would be pleasant to report that *Noises Off* also has a real chance but, while it should be nominated, it is bound to suffer the short shrift given even the most skillful farce, for none has won since the Best Play award was instituted in 1947.

As award material or simply good entertainment, the much-anticipated Broadway debut of *The Dining Room*'s author, A. R. Gurney, Jr., proves melancholy. *The Golden Age* (Jack Lawrence Theatre) is a faint *Aspern Papers* echo about a professor-writer (Jeff Daniels) who seeks out a reclusive Twenties social and literary grande dame (Irene Worth) for her possible possession of a lost chapter of *The Great Gatsby*. He is baited into hanging around and romancing her alcoholic granddaughter (Stockard Channing) while working on the recluse's biography and hoping to get the Fitzgerald fragment. Though Mr Gurney's fun at the expense of both outmoded and newlywed social conventions occasionally surfaces, the play is too long-winded to set sail. In spite of valiant, attractive performances, the characters are never credible.

The Human Comedy, another Broadway entry, moved uptown from a successful run at the New York Shakespeare Festival's Public Theater, should not make the producers of *La Cage aux Folles* worry about losing their chance of Best Musical, but at least one of its supporting players, Bonnie Koloc - displaying an exceptionally lovely and strong voice in her Broadway debut - may be a winner. The show's nostalgic representation of small-town America during the Second World War, based on a film scenario and novel by William Saroyan, has been set by the *Har* composer Galt McDermott to the sweetest songs on Broadway.

Rounding off the Broadway openings is a revival of Clifford Odets' *Awake and Sing* at the Circle in the Square. Directed by Circle's founder and artistic head, Ted Mann, the revival stars Nancy Marchand and features several fine performers acting in a jumble of accents and styles. There is also an Off-Broadway revival of *Odets' Paradise Lost* at the Mirror Theatre. Directed by Mirror's founder and artistic head, John Strasberg (son of the late Method guru Lee Strasberg), the revival stars Geraldine Page and features several other fine performers acting in a jumble of accents and styles. Odets' memory is being honoured with decidedly mixed blessings.

Though most coveted, the Tonys are not the only awards in town. Off-Broadway productions are eligible for numerous citations, and a plethora have recently entered the lists. No season feels quite complete without a mystery or thriller, and the Circle Repertory Company finds that niche nicely with John Bishop's *The Harvesting*. This tale of a small-town detective unravelling an old family tragedy has surprises, emotional punch and some hilarious police radio calls covering quick scene changes.

Faring better than with the poor production of *Mensch Meier* in January is the West German playwright Franz Xaver Kroetz. The noted experimental group Mabou Mines is presenting *Kroetz's Through the Leaves* (Interart Theatre), a sort of sadistic elaboration of Ben Franklin's advice to take older women as mistresses because they are so grateful. Even when partially nude for some fairly clinical sex scenes, Ruth Meleczek and Frederick Neumann make their characters, of a middle-aged woman who owns and runs a small butcher's shop and her insensitive, envious clod of a lover, so real that they hardly seem to be acting. Joanne Akalaitis' staging enables Kroetz to emerge as a playwright with a stark, penetrating voice.

Holly Hill

Television Different cultures

The *Golden Land* (BBC1) was, at least in part, a programme about Jewish immigration to the United States: this has been the subject of so many cinematic melodramas that the story now seems a familiar one, and as a result it becomes difficult to treat in an interesting manner. Desmond Wilcox, who was both writer and presenter, tried to resolve the problem by glancing only briefly at Ellis Island and New York before concentrating upon the other coast - the "golden land" of Los Angeles, it seems, has more Jews than either Tel Aviv or Jerusalem: it also has more film stars than either of those cities, and this was a documentary about the position of Jews in a culture quite different from any other. It is hard to be a human being in California, let alone anything more specific.

And so it was that the T-shirts here have emblems saying "Kosher Kid", and the restaurants advertise "Kosher Burritos": the Wilshire Boulevard Temple has been constructed in Byzantine style, like the cinemas, and apparently the most significant fact about its rabbi is that he married Norma Shearer and Irving Thalberg. Bernard Schwartz, alias Tony Curtis, enlivens an otherwise depressing vista with a few risqué jokes. Marvin Mitchell, the lawyer, was more serious although perhaps his office overlooks a country club where membership is still refused to Jews.

The programme concentrated too heavily upon the man: generations of the Mitchells family, however, since with the exception of Marvin and his strong-willed mother, they seemed a somewhat unprepossessing group. And that was the problem with the first episode of this series: it was excessively anecdotal, and wasted too much time on people who had too little to say. The interviews and old film-clips were mixed with a solemn commentary, to very little effect. Since most of the subjects seemed to be of a conventionally American type, the nature of their Jewishness was never established and so, inevitably, the exercise became rather inconclusive. If there were points to be made, or conclusions to be reached, they should have been presented at least forcefully enough to create some impression.

Peter Ackroyd

Concerts

Söderström/Vignoles
St John's/Radio 3

In her autobiography Elisabeth Söderström regrets having to programme her song recitals so far in advance. Instead, she suggests, she should just turn up with a willing accomplice and a huge pile of songs and see what she feels like singing and what the audience would like to hear.

That spontaneously, which anyone who has heard her introduce a complete recital as she did her encores on Monday will know, is central to her nature: her loveliest interpretations take wing from it. And perhaps it is commensurately difficult for her to sound truly convinced by anything she is not inspired by at that moment: there is remarkably little cover of mere professional smoothness in her singing.

That may explain how this recital veered between the heights of accomplishment and a feeling of unease. The programme was intricately constructed, with Goethe's *Leichte und schwere Lieder* leading to Russian song by Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninov. Sometimes, in the Liszt songs, intonation wavered and breath control seemed lacking; then the magnificent "Über allen Gipfeln ist ruh" took wing, with all the operatic flamboyance for which Liszt's songs are so unjustly criticized. (They remain a neglected treasure trove.)

In Schubert, too, she took a while to find the focus in her voice but then it flowered in a quite overwhelming "Erlkönig", every word weighed with meaning, the lines historically projected or scarcely breathed, as great a portrayal of the art of declamation as one could wish for.

Her greatest art, more than singing, is an elevated music-drama, was saved for the contrasted encores: a rhapsodic heart-breaking declaration of love by Grieg, and a skittish Sibelius portrait of everyday life in the workaday city, which aptly sent us all back to tapping on our typewriters and answering the telephone. Superb accompaniments from Roger Vignoles, luminous in Liszt, sharp-edged in Schubert, each song characterized with flexible force.

Nicholas Kenyon

ECO/Kuhn
Festival Hall

However arbitrary the concept of award and however meaningless the use of the word "best" in the context of musical activity, Kiri te Kanawa's *Chants d'Auvergne* was an understandable choice for Best British Classical Recording of 1983; and her performance on Monday was further justification.

Few pieces release so fully and directly the heart of Dame Kiri's artistry: the delighted rolling and tasting of strange vowels in the mouth in *Canteloube's "Les Bous" or the "Flamme"*.

Soloists from the English Chamber Orchestra took equal joy in their parts, with José Luis García in his element as the rustic fiddler.

An artist as instinctive as

Erics Jones' recital was hampered by nervous stiffness.

Jones' Sonata in E flat, Hob XVI/49, never really took off, while the mellowness that should have been heard in two Schubert Impromptus was missing, though Busoni's version of Bach's D minor Chaconne did have the requisite sense of breadth. Timidity again spoilt Jones's Rachmaninov and Chopin groups, and in fact was laid Hamilton's characteristic Three Pieces that brought out the best in him, despatched with the sharp, positive wit that was sadly missed elsewhere.

In London debuts

Eric Jones' recital was hampered by nervous stiffness.

Dame Kiri is never happier than when sheer beauty of sound can blossom out of her voice uninhibited by the constraints of language. For words can, and sometimes do, confuse the issue for her, as *Les Nuits d'ete* reminded us: in Berlioz the voice glides along the music's

language is Söderström's element. She can bring a desolate intensity to Rachmaninov's "Loneliness" tinged with a subtlety few can match; but turns as convincingly to the raucously repeated calls of Tchaikovsky's "The Cuckoo".

Her greatest art, more than singing, is an elevated music-drama, was saved for the contrasted encores: a rhapsodic heart-breaking declaration of love by Grieg, and a skittish Sibelius portrait of everyday life in the workaday city, which aptly sent us all back to tapping on our typewriters and answering the telephone. Superb accompaniments from Roger Vignoles, luminous in Liszt, sharp-edged in Schubert, each song characterized with flexible force.

In her quite outstanding

recording of the work, this instinctive sense warms and refreshes the score's fine, austere sensibility, holding the two in near-perfect balance. But, without equally disciplined preparation and the meticulous ear of a Barenboim to guide her, Dame Kiri was adrift long before the last song's voyage out. The very fragility of such an entirely intuitive response needs the support of orchestral direction far more discerning than that of Gustav Kuhn: its generous though generalized nature requires even more specific attention to nuance of timing and instrumental balance.

But it was not to be.

Exaggerated drawing back of tempi, smudged pitch and rhythm, were further symptoms of a slackly and insufficiently prepared reading. Ravel's *Tonks de Couperin* and Schubert's Third Symphony framed the evening. Both were happier in the idea than in the turgid, at times aggressive, realization, though Thea King's

few pieces release so fully and directly the heart of Dame Kiri's artistry: the delighted rolling and tasting of strange vowels in the mouth in *Canteloube's "Les Bous"*, or the warm reflections of blurring line and harmony of "Lo Flair". Soloists from the English Chamber Orchestra took equal joy in their parts, with José Luis García in his element as the rustic fiddler.

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SPECTRUM

What are the best books of poetry published since the war? As a guide to the growing demand for poetry in Britain, Poetry Review commissioned a survey among poets and critics. Mick Imlah reports

moreover...
Miles Kington

Bards of our time

Suppose that the publishers thought there was any point in a campaign to sell poetry. What books would or should we be encouraged to read? In response to the Book Marketing Council's "Best Novels of Our Time" promotion, the magazine *Poetry Review* has conducted a survey among poets and critics of all tastes to assess which might be regarded as the 13 best books of verse published since 1939.

The idea was that these should be single volumes, and not collected or selected editions of the kind that people usually buy; not only to match the "novels" list more closely, but because to poet and publisher alike the small book — whether it contains one long poem, a sequence, or a set of shorter pieces — is the staple of poetic production, the form in which most poems are originally designed to be enjoyed.

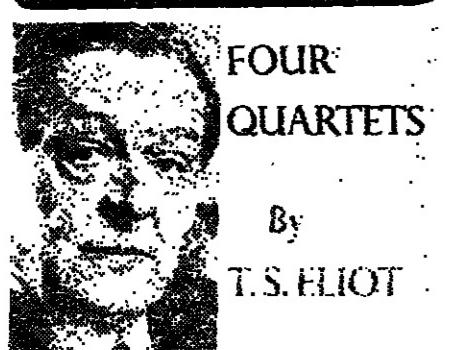
The trouble with this is that several admired writers, notably the riddly American Wallace Stevens, are only available here in collected editions; that the achievement of others (such as perhaps Elizabeth Bishop) looks minor until their work is gathered together, and that some poets' best work is concentrated in one volume (Sylvia Plath) while others have spread their success evenly across six or seven books. Dreadlocked West Indian bard Benjamin Zephaniah goes so far as to suggest that most of the best poetry doesn't get published at all.

So some of the selectors (such as Oxford critic John Bayley, who chose 14 titles, or mystical poet Peter Redgrave, who found a way to incorporate the long Middle English poem *Piers Plowman*) chafed against the rules.

Others, like the Ranter, Seething Wells from Barnsley, who favours such titles as *Ha! Ha! Ha!* by George Thaw, chafed against poetry itself. Still, the 13 titles that emerged as the most popular (see list) represent an interesting compendium of current taste.

3 T. S. ELIOT

Four Quartets 1944



Eliot's mature masterpiece. Its form, which owes much to musical structure, is complex and beautiful; its content is also concerned with formal matters of time and space:

We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.

THE POETS
1-Philip Larkin High Windows (1974)
and
Sylvia Plath Ariel (1965)
2- T. S. Eliot Four Quartets (1944)
3-Basil Bunting Whitstable Weddings (1964)
5 Robert Lowell Life Studies (1959)
6 Ted Hughes The Hawk in the Rain (1957)
7 Seamus Heaney North (1975)
8 Elizabeth Bishop Geography III (1976)
10 W. H. Auden Another Time (1940)
11 Basil Bunting Briggflatts (1968)
12 Keith Douglas Complete Poems (1979)
13 Ezra Pound Pisan Cantos (1948)

THE JUDGES

NEIL ASTLEY — Director Bloodaxe Books;
JONATHAN BARKER — Librarian, Arts Council
Poetry Library; JOHN BAYLEY — Professor,
Oxford University; GUY CLARKE — Poet;
West Indian Poet ALAN BROWNLOWHORN — Poet,
Chairman of the Poetry Society; JOHN CAREY —
Professor, Oxford University & Critic; GAVIN
EWART — Poet; MICHAEL HOROVITZ — Editor,
New English Poetry; CLIVE JAMES — Poet;
JOHN MEDBH MCGUICKAN — Ulster Poet; IAN
MCILLIAN — Poet; Performer; ANDREW
MOTION — Poet, Editor of Chatto Poetry;
CHARLES OSBORNE — Literature Director,
Arts Council; CRAIG HEANEY — Poet;
STEVING WELLS — Poet; PEN
LOPE SHUTTLE — Poet; SEETHING WELLS — Poet;
"Ranting" Poet; HUGO WILLIAMS — Poet;
BENJAMIN ZEPHANIAH — Dub Poet.

The first thing that the chart reveals is the extent of American influence.

There is a reasonable contention to be heard these days that poets such as Pound and Eliot (in the 1910s and 1920s), the insurance official Stevens (around the 1940s), the boorish Robert Lowell, the quietly influential Elizabeth Bishop, the long-bearded whisky-crazed John Berryman, the agonized Sylvia Plath (in the nerve-racked 1950s and 1960s), and most recently the fashionable New Yorker John Ashberry — dragged from a gutter, so the story goes, by Yale Professor Harold Bloom — have shifted the centre of activity in English language poetry across the Atlantic.

The chart bears this out. Of 11 poets named, five are American, including Eliot (who left America for England) but not Auden (who left England for America) — even though many selectors excluded foreigners from their own lists. Take away the Irishman Neil Astley, the young director of poetry publishers Bloodaxe, was one enthusiastic supporter: "Keith Douglas's *Complete Poems* is my choice at the best poetry book of our time." On such evidence, Douglas's reputation is set for a major advance.

One might have predicted a fifth or sixth place for Sylvia Plath, but her tie with Philip Larkin for the lead is a sign

of how general is the appalled respect for the jagged, powerful poems she wrote in the months before her suicide. Plath drew her support from academics and from pop performers alike.

It is also a slightly negative reflection that three places are taken up by established masters — Eliot, Pound, Auden — whose reputations belong to an earlier era, even if many of their best poems do not. Only Heaney and Basil Bunting, of the poets selected, have made their names in the last 20 years, though Peter Porter (Australia) and *The Observer*, James Fenton (Oxford and *The Sunday Times*), Craig Raine (founder of Martians), a tiny modern movement which writes about life as if viewed from another planet) and Douglas Dunn (for *Terry Street*, 1969) all came close to making the chart.

The presence of Bunting, like that of Keith Douglas and the high showing of Sylvia Plath's *Ariel*, is a big surprise. He is a venerable Northumbrian — 84 this year — and a disciple of Pound, whose unreadable masterpiece *The Pisan Cantos* sneaks in two places beneath.

Bunting clearly benefits from the rules of the survey; it is for the autobiographical *Briggflatts* in particular, rather than for a whole life's work, that he is slowly and belatedly gaining recognition. You might call him a poet's poet: "There is no excuse for literary criticism" says this splendid old man.

Keith Douglas did not live to see his best poems printed in book form; he died in battle near El Alamein, aged 24. So many selectors wanted to bend the rules to accommodate his special case that the rules were duly bent.

Neil Astley, the young director of poetry publishers Bloodaxe, was one enthusiastic supporter: "Keith Douglas's *Complete Poems* is my choice at the best poetry book of our time." On such evidence, Douglas's reputation is set for a major advance.

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But the survey is dominated by the three living poets in the top 10: Larkin, Hughes and Heaney, and in that order. Hughes (though no such chart recorded it then) held sway in the 1960s, when his crackling, snazzy poems of animal violence were an antidote to the gloomy, civilized urbanity that had characterized some poetry of the previous decade — including that of the younger Larkin. But fashions change, or judgment has matured.

With his very gloomiest and most grumpily right-wing collection, *High Windows*, Larkin has displaced Hughes as our premier influence. Rumour has it that it will also be his last book; though not yet retired from his job as a

librarian (at Hull University), he claims to have given up writing poems altogether, though he has published only four slim volumes in 40 years. Three poems a year, on average: not much.

Hughes, a craggy Yorkshireman, and Heaney, a twinkling Ulsterman now living in the Republic of Ireland, are still in prolific mid-career. Hughes published *River* last year, a book with terrible photographs of reeds and minnows, and Heaney has a new book out from Faber in October. Each of them had five titles nominated in the survey, and you would have guessed as much. Discussion may continue about the relative merits of each book, but the status of our three leading poets is almost a matter of common consent.

The author is co-editor of Poetry Review.

4 PHILIP LARKIN

The Whitsun Weddings 1964



Though there is rich comedy, and even affirmation in some obscure lovely corners (like the well-known close of the title-poem), these precisely made poems are most memorable for their glorious pessimism:

Life is first boredom, then fear.
Whether or not we use it, goes.
And leaves what something hidden
from us chose,
And age, and then the only end of age.

5 ROBERT LOWELL

Life Studies 1959

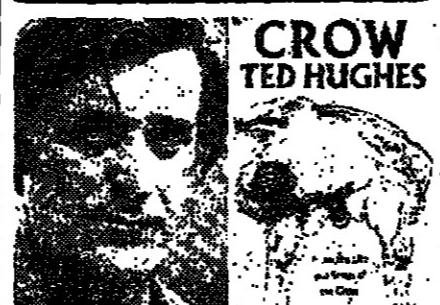


A founding text of the Confessional Movement. In courageous autobiographical poems, the Bostonian Lowell abandons his earlier tight metrics for a verse that is loose, prosaic, sardonic, harrowing:

A car radio bleats,
'Love, O careless Love...' I hear
My ill-spirited sob in each blood cell
As if my hand were at its throat...
I myself am hell,
nobody's here,

6 TED HUGHES

Crow 1970



A successful piece of myth-making: Crow, a resilient anti-hero, and his crude dealings with God:

When God said: 'You win, Crow.'
'He made the Redeemer.'
When God went off in despair
Crow stropped his beak and started in
on the two thieves.

7 SEAMUS HEANEY

The Hawk in the Rain 1957



The volume that had an almost physical impact on the enervated 1950s. Though parts are overwritten, its best poems, like *The Thought-Fox*, control their explosions:

Till, with a sudden sharp hot stink of fox
It enters the dark hole of the head.
The window is starless still; the clock ticks,
The page is printed.

9 ELIZABETH BISHOP

Geography III 1976

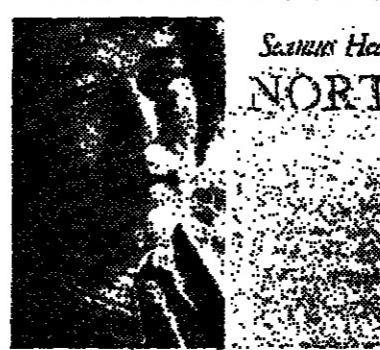


The highlight of this last collection by an appealingly modest but nimble American is a deceptively light account of a bus's encounter with a moose:

For a moment longer
By craning backward,
the moose can be seen
on the moonlit macadam;
then there's a dim
smell of moose, an acrid
smell of gasoline.

10 W. H. AUDEN

Another Time 1940



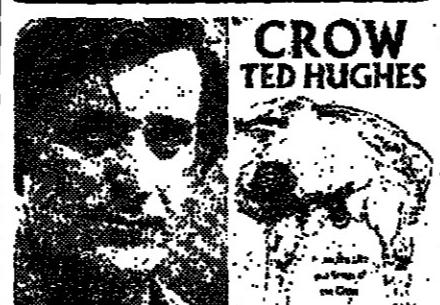
Heaney is our earthiest poet. The core of this collection is a sequence of poems about the preserved bodies of Danish "hog people"; *Bog Queen*, for example, an eerie map of decomposition:

My sash was black glacier
wrinkling, dyed weaves
and phoenician stitchwork
retted on my breasts'

soft moraines.

11 BASIL BUNTING

Briggflatts 1966



An autobiographical poem but densely allusive. Its musical structure (he calls it a "sonata") and attractive lyrical surface offset its broad range of reference:

Brag, sweet tenor bull,
descant on Rawhney's madrigal,
each pebble its part
for the fell's late spring,
dance tiptoe, bull,
black against May.
Ridiculous and lovely
chase hurling shadows
morning into noon.

12 KEITH DOUGLAS

Complete Poems 1979



The collection which charts the chastening of a young poet's literariness by the horrible particularity of war in the desert:

the metal brambles have no flowers or berries
and there are all sorts of manure,
you can imagine
the dead themselves, their boots,
clothes and possessions
clinging to the ground,
a man with no head
has a packet of chocolate and a
souvenir or Tripoli.

13 EZRA POUND

The Pisan Cantos 1949



The most acclaimed section of the long sequence of *Cantos*. Notoriously difficult. The opening of one gives a taste of its extreme allusiveness and quirky movement:

The enormous tragedy of the dream in
the peasant's brief shoulders
Manes! Manes was tanned and stuffed,
Thus Ben and Clara a Milano
by the heels at Milano
That maggots shad eat the dead
bullock... DIOGONOS...

England digs in for a victory

So Liverpool are through to the finals of the European Garden Cup! Merseyside went wild today when they heard that they had been drawn to face Rome to dispute the title of European Champion Gardeners. In this city of bloom and blossom, there is not one citizen who is not a fanatical gardener and although fewer than 50,000 will make the trip to Rome for the final, the entire population of Liverpool will be in spirit inside the boiling cauldron they call the Roman Municipal Gardens.

"This is definitely the big one for us," says Liverpool head gardener Joe Parsley. "We've shown we're the prettiest in Britain. Now we've got to go out and show the Europeans that our British flowers can run rings round them. Of course, the Italians have had the advantage of early summer. I'm not denying that, but our burst of spring weather has done us a power of good and I think our bulbs could decide it on the day."

No gardens in Britain have more European experience than Liverpool, not even Tottenham Hotspur. To get to the final Liverpool had to beat Trelleborg, DDT Munich, Sporting Gazebo and the Spanish champions, Real Wisteria, so they are no strangers to the big occasion. But when they go out into the seething cooking pot they call the Roman Municipal Gardens, in front of 100,000 screaming Roman horticulturalists, they'll know they have a real scrap on their hands.

The strength of the Italians has always been in their tricky, twining profusion of patterns and their fertile summer fruits. What answer will Liverpool have to the olive oil boys?

"Never underestimate the strength of traditional British skills," says Parsley. "A good formation of yellow daffs, a spring display of tulips with a back-up formation of magnolias, is very hard to beat. Our display is gathered from all over Britain, you know, with star attractions from Scotland, Ireland and Wales. Rush from Wales, especially, may be a surprise to them; I don't think they know how to grow rushes in Italy."

The famous Kop in Liverpool, the hill where most of the action takes place, is normally a waving, swaying mass of colour this time of year but come Final day it will be empty, transplanted to that fermenting vat they call the Roman Municipal Gardens. One gardening fan, Terry Smith of Toxteth, is so fanatical that when he had to decide between going to Rome, or taking a holiday he opted for both, and has decided to take his family with him to the great occasion.

"These gardening specials are a trip out of this world," he told us. "You get the odd fan who goes mad on primrose wine, but the bulk of us are solid, sensible supporters and a credit to the gardens. When we enter Rome, waving our red scarves and singing 'When the Scents go Marching In' we'll feel 10ft tall. I don't give them Romans a chance."

Joe Parsley doesn't underestimate the Romans, though. He admires their artistry and fears their will to win, sometimes at all costs."

"When things go against them, they can get very physical. I've seen them hacking and trampling all over the opposition's flower bed's cutting blooms down from behind and going in with the gumboots first. But we're ready for anything. And it will be a great day, whatever wins."

Is that seething snake-pit they call the Roman Municipal Gardens? "Exactly."

* * *

The Venice Marathon

There are still many entry forms available from me for the Venice Marathon, the only amphibious long-distance race in the world. The streets and canals in Venice are so narrow that the runners would be unable to overtake, and would finish in the order in which they set out, were it not that the course passes through the interior of 10 of the largest churches in Venice, where there is ample passing room. Entrants should carry plenty of change, in case entry to the church is charged. For these and many other details, send an SAE to me, c/o Moreover Mobile Cappuccino Canteen, *The Times*.

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

TALKBACK

Interfering with nature

From Polly Philimore, Flat 3, 38 Tregunter Road, London SW10
I have read your report on surrogate mothers (Wednesday Page, April 25) with horror and dismay.

I believe that the waiting list for adoption is long for white children but that there are plenty of non-Caucasian children in need of adoption. If a child is so desperately wanted but a woman's infertile any child requiring a home should fulfill this need.

Test-tube babies are the product of the sperm and ova of a man and a woman who wish to bring up their child together. This justification for interfering with nature cannot be upheld in the use of a surrogate mother.

The unacceptability of this method is clear on any grounds. Couples who consider themselves as upright, moral and Christian members of society seem able to condone offering money to a woman to conceive and bear a child solely to bring happiness and satisfaction to their own lives. We ought to note with care the mother's admission to missing the child and "wondering how she is developing; she dismissed this as "just motherhood curiosity". Exactly. She will always be wondering about that child - long after the money has gone.

Meat-eating and arthritis cures

From Fabienne Smith, 55 Manor Place, Edinburgh EH3 7EG.
There is no general connection between dropping meat-eating and losing arthritis (Talkback April 11); it is a question of an individual's allergic foods causing that particular symptom in a given case. Mr Gatting could test by reintroducing foods singly to see which give reactions and which are safe.

I once cured a bad arthritic as dramatically as Mr Gatting cured himself, by advising her to cut out meats. All pain and stiffness went after ten years of being drugged to the eyeballs by orthodox doctors, as she put it to me, and often still crying with pain. But any allergen can produce any allergy symptom. Your Talkback correspondent Mrs Payne (Jan 13), also cured bad arthritis, but not by cutting out all meats - her allergens happened to have a different pattern.

The Times Cook will appear next Wednesday.

Richard Ford reports on marriages that cause suspicion and fear in Northern Ireland

By the church divided

Patrick McGurk's last view of his girlfriend was as she lay in her coffin. She had committed suicide after being harassed and tormented because she was going out with a Roman Catholic.

Protestant youths in a small Northern Ireland farming town had insulted Yvonne Hunter, a 22-year-old Presbyterian factory worker, only hours before she took a fatal overdose of drugs. She had also been under pressure from friends to end her seven-month relationship with Patrick, a 23-year-old Catholic.

After testifying at last month's inquest into her death, Patrick went home to his parents in Moneygore, Co. Londonderry, and sobbed all night. He had told the coroner that although he had never been harassed, his car had been followed on occasions. The message from his tormentors is now clear - give up the girl.

Patrick met Yvonne in one of the only bars in the town where Protestant and Roman Catholic youngsters mix freely, and the relationship quickly became common knowledge in the small town.

But although both families had welcomed Patrick and Yvonne into their homes, pressures in Northern Ireland, especially among the working classes, would have made it very difficult for the relationship to flourish. Mixed marriages are a major cause of tension in the community, causing deep suspicion and fears that they are a ploy to undermine each other's faith.

Perhaps Patrick's mother highlights those barriers. In attending Yvonne's funeral, it was the first time she'd ever set foot in a Presbyterian church and even then her presence was conspicuous as most of the Protestant women, according to custom, did not attend.

Although Mrs McGurk would like her five children to marry "their own religion", she did not stop Patrick's relationship with Yvonne, but admits that if they had married they would probably have had to set up home away from the town. "If they'd stayed it might have got much worse than just name-calling. There might have been physical attacks."

But not all parents are as understanding as Mrs McGurk. Trish Blackman still remembers her mother's horror on hearing that she intended to marry her long-standing Protestant boyfriend Terry. Slicing onions in the kitchen, her staunchly Roman Catholic mother dropped the knife, almost cutting her foot, shouted, "Jesus, Mary and Joseph", and burst into tears.



In spite of this opposition, Trish married Terry. It is easier for middle-class couples like them, comfortable in East Belfast - particularly those who have left the family home. But for others, the pressures from parents, and more so from grandparents, aunts and uncles, are enormous.

One such case is Gerard (not his real name) who had been brought up by his working-class parents in Bude. Until he was 19 and working, he had never knowingly met a Protestant, let alone considered going out with a Protestant girl.

He had always thought of Protestants as "Bible thumpers standing on soap boxes", and for several years still did not feel safe to make close friends with them. Because of the hard-line Republican housing estate on which he lived, he knew of the hostility that had arisen in the past when Protestants had gone to neighbouring houses. "I just did not feel safe with having Protestant friends; you don't shed 19 years overnight."

He met Ruth, a Protestant, from a town several miles away at work, where there was banter between "Taigs and Prods", and a year later they began going out, knowing they were courting disapproval from both sets of parents. They were, and remain, strong disciples of their respective faiths and knew of the problems ahead. One of Ruth's brothers was in the security forces, and her father would never attend a marriage held in a Roman Catholic church. Gerard's father had ominously warned: "I have nothing against Protestants but marrying one is going too far."

So when the couple announced their intention to marry, the reaction was as expected. Gerard's parents refused to meet Ruth, forbade her from entering their home and whenever he left to meet her, they made insulting comments. Two years later their hostility is unrelenting. They have never met nor seen his wife. An invitation to the wedding went unanswered and none

of his family was at the service in a Protestant church.

"They were insulted to be invited in the first place and though I see them every week they have never come to our house."

Initially Ruth's family was as unhappy, but after six months Gerard met her father and he is now accepted as their son-in-law. They live near each other. He plays snooker and pool with his brothers and on one memorable occasion her brothers argued with some youths who had jibed about their sister.

Both churches also added to the couple's problems. Gerard, who had given a written promise to educate any children in the Catholic faith, was refused dispensation to marry in a Protestant church. He has never been given any reason, despite requests to his bishop. The Kirk Session of Ruth's Presbyterian church turned down their request to marry, hinting that there might be protests about the match, as there had already been gossip. Eventually they married in another Protestant church where Ruth now regularly attends while her husband goes to Mass each week.

Their experiences have made them question their respective religions for the first time and their children will be educated in the state system. They will be allowed to decide their religion themselves. "It has strengthened the bond between us, but we still are very angry at the obstacles put in our way by the churches, particularly as we were both believers rather than token members," says Gerard, who is still attempting to persuade his church to recognize the marriage so that he can take sacraments.

They have been fortunate in being able to buy their own home in a town not noted for sectarian strife and they deny there are any arguments because of their different cultural and religious backgrounds, though they have always agreed to forget certain things like politics and the position of the Virgin Mary in the Roman Catholic faith.

The suspicion, although many couples deny it, is that major differences are deliberately submerged to prevent family disagreements. And whatever the initial hostility of respective families, most discover that over the years it evaporates, particularly if grandchildren are born.

As one Roman Catholic married to a Protestant put it: "My mammy thinks he's wonderful. She keeps saying I'm so lucky and that he even does the dishes once a week as well as making me go to Mass."

Traitors to their faith'

The hostility to mixed marriages in Northern Ireland is merely a manifestation of the attitude to religion in the Province. Those who marry "against their faith" are seen as traitors to it.

As James Boyd, former professor of practical theology at the Presbyterian Theological College, said: "There is a triumphalism in Irish religion. To turn your coat is a terrible thing as it is seen as disloyalty and betrayal. Even a person converting to become a Protestant will remain in many people's eyes a Roman Catholic at heart and vice versa. In a province where the extended family network of relations is still a dominant feature of life, the cultural pressures on young couples contemplating a mixed marriage are enormous."

It is certainly easier for middle-class couples like Trish and Terry Blackburn. They live in East Belfast where anonymity can be a welcome shield against the jibes. Many couples must move to towns miles from their homes to find this anonymity - and peace. Others simply face enormous hurdles to reaching the altar.

The churches, on both sides, do little to help. Before Gerard and Ruth married, they came up against the panoply of the churches and it is this that most couples in mixed marriages remember with bitterness and contempt. The unevenness of the application of the Roman Catholic Church's response to requests for dispensation to marry a Protestant arouses most hostility, particularly if priests put pressure on the Protestant partner to convert. Even articulate middle-class couples have difficulties, though frequently priests retreat in the face of strong argument or the threat of a Register Office wedding.

Protestant partners no longer have to give any promise about the upbringing of any children but the Roman Catholic makes one orally and sometimes in writing.

Even though many Protestants see the Roman Catholic Church's insistence on the promise of "genocide" for their faith, they are frequently as hard-line with the Presbyterian church discouraging their members "for their own sakes" from entering a mixed marriage and some ministers refuse to marry a couple for fear of antagonizing their congregation. Such attitudes on both sides often result in couples drifting away from the church altogether while others seek to marry outside the country.

EUROPEAN TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP 1984

THE RACING LEGEND GROWS

Jaguar 1st, Donington, April 29th, 1984*

Nowhere is excellence harder to attain, and so crucial to success, than on the motor racing circuit.

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The 1984 season opened at Monza on April 1st with a victory for the Jaguar XJS and continued last Sunday at Donington Park with the V12 engine Jaguar again finishing

first in the challenging 500km race.

Many of the factors that ensure the unique reliability and performance of the entire Jaguar range are directly attributable to the innovations and refinements pioneered on the race tracks of Europe.

Every individual Jaguar reflects the racing success of the Jaguar legend. It is just one of the reasons why no other car reflects your success like a Jaguar.

See the Jaguar Racing team at the following events across Europe throughout 1984.

Pergusa, Enna (Sicily)	13th May
Brno, Czechoslovakia	10th June
Zeltweg, Graz, Austria	17th June
Salzburg, Austria	1st July
Nurburg, Germany	8th July
Spa, Belgium	28th & 29th July
Silverstone (TT), UK	9th September
Zolder, Hasselt, Belgium	23rd September
Mugello, Florence, Italy	21st October





THE TIMES DIARY

Scargill's ace

The coal strike gets more confusing by the day. Publicizing their cause in the May Day issue of the *Morning Star* yesterday, the Yorkshire NUM endorsed a statement which Mrs Thatcher made during the Falklands crisis: "You have to be prepared to defend those things in which you believe, and be prepared to use force, if that is the only way to secure the future of liberty and self-determination." Perhaps Mrs Thatcher could now unearth an old Scargill pearl to support her stand against the miners.

Strats off

So much for the traditions of English public schools - Winchelsea has just abolished straw boaters. John Thorn, the headmaster, says that at £16 a throw, the "strat" was an unnecessary expense for parents - who pay £5,000 a year in fees. Apart from a "blitz" when the Queen came, the strats were becoming so tatty that I am told, boys looked like versions of Worzel Gummidge. Old boys are not amused. Some tell me that Thorn, who retires as head after 17 years next year, has taken the decision for fear that his successor, yet to be appointed, would ban the boaters to demonstrate the power of his new broom. "Some subtleties are beyond me," said Thorn.

Chelsea pad

The Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, was urged by Lord Chalfont yesterday to police the Libyan People's School in Glebe Place, Chelsea, for fear it will be used as a refuge or training camp for Libyan hit squads. The school, now bereft of 45 diplomats' children following the exodus last week, has a flat roof - ideal for a helicopter landing pad - and a fortress-style steel-framed structure.

Enforced policing, however, could well have dangerous consequences; when I visited the school yesterday, a car filled with police officers was parked outside and another poised was in the playground. The headmaster, Ibrahim Taufour, was incensed, and told them that any attempt to search the building - adorned with Gaddafi posters - would be resisted. One officer somewhat desperately asked if he could use the school lavatories. "Clear off," said Taufour.

Museum piece

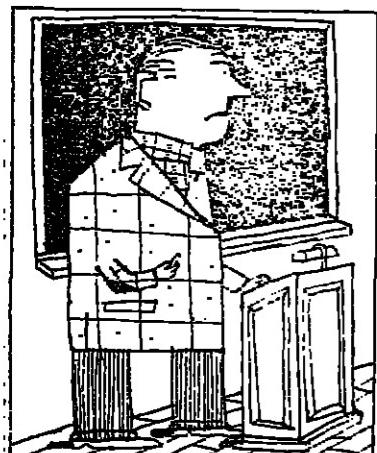
THE BRITISH EMBASSY TRIPOLI TELEPHONE 31101

Only one party is happy about the 200 sheets of hand-engraved writing paper which have just been printed: Londale Engraving of London. To save his embarrassment, the company refuses to name the diplomat who settled the £60 bill from Tripoli two weeks ago.

Filed away

One question the Government will have to answer over the Libyan affair is whether it was aware that the US State Department kept a file on Abdul Ghadir Khalifa Baghdadi, the leader of the revolutionary committee which took over the People's Bureau in February. Baghdadi studied sociology at Michigan State University from 1978-80, but did not complete the course. One reference in the US file describes him as a "disreputable sort of fellow". A fellow student at Michigan State was Musa Kusa, the former secretary of the bureau who was thrown out of Britain in 1980 for saying that more anti-Gaddafi Libyans in Britain would be killed.

BARRY FANTONI



"If it takes one minister three days to earn £265, how long does it take a teacher to get an extra seven and a half per cent?"

Off the shelf

For people who make careers out of storing books and documents with military precision, the Library Association has just made an appalling gaffe. It cannot find its own Royal Charter, bestowed and signed by Queen Victoria in 1877. I am told it probably disappeared "on the road" while on exhibition.

Hair blackshirts

Some mothers do have 'em. First, Lady Mosley virtually ostracizes her stepson Nicholas for his caustic biography of Sir Oswald. Now her son by her first marriage, Jonathan Guinness, is tempting her further wrath by publishing in October the first biography of all seven Mitfords. It will be called *Shrieks and Floods* - of outrage and tears.

PHS



Why Len Murray decided to quit: by Paul Routledge

Milestones in the career of the Shropshire lad. 1960, as the ambitious head of the TUC's economic and research department. 1976, with wife Heather after recovering from a heart attack. "I shall be reassessing my work load," he said at the time. "This has taught me that I am not a superman." February 1984, speaking in support of the GCHQ workers, a dispute that soured his relations with the government and is thought to have been at least a contributory factor behind his decision to retire three years early

Lonely fate of the rejected realist

Workers' Union - and the rift has never really healed. No general secretary has been so obliged to use the right to vote as he has on key committees of the general council (and within the general council itself). That personal exercise of voting power cannot simply be explained away by the fact that the influence of the trade union movement has waned so much during his term of office.

Mr Murray may have risen to the top by the natural operation of Buggins's law, which makes the long-serving deputy the next man for the job, but it was a battle that, by and large, was fought successfully. Murray was an articulate and clever spokesman in defence of the social contract, which broke down only when the unions finally felt betrayed by Mr Callaghan when he postponed the general election that they all expected in the autumn of 1978.

Those views were expressed just a few months before his first big crisis as general secretary - the 1974 miners' strike which precipitated the downfall of Mr Edward Heath's Conservative government. Not long after it began, he came out into a cold February night in Downing Street, incredulous that Mr Heath and his ministers would not take his word that, if the miners were allowed to drive a coach and horses through the statutory incomes policy, others would not seek to follow.

His abasement at the hands of the Heath cabinet must have been assuaged over the next five years, however, when the TUC enjoyed unprecedented access to ministers and influence over the Wilson/Callaghan administration that took office during the pit strike. It was a honeymoon period between the unions and their chosen government, and the ill-fated 1971 Industrial Relations Act was scrapped forthwith.

It must have seemed like the millennium, but it did not last. Within days of being gazetted as a privy councillor in May 1976,

he took office without the support of the TUC's biggest affiliate - the Transport and General

secretary, Mr Larry Gostin, had publicly declared that it was his aim to broaden the scope and political range of the council's work and to gain all-party support. He did indeed succeed in the latter aim, by attracting a very wide selection of commendation for his organization on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, and he certainly seemed to be serious in the former aim also: he strongly opposed the conference decision to deny help to those of the wrong political persuasion. (Incidentally, Mr Gostin is an American; so is the director of the British section of Amnesty; so is the young lady who invents statistics for Mr Scargill. I am notoriously pro-American, but I am even more Pro-British; at a time of very high unemployment in this country, it is really impossible for such posts to be filled by those who are native here and to the manner born?)

Advice was forthcoming from NCCL staff, without a prior demand to know the applicant's party colours; such honest abiding by the principles of freedom and impartiality infuriated the advocates of a political purity test, and the conference ended with a series of resolutions designed to ensure that such a thing should never happen again. Not all of these resolutions were carried, which is why I say that the campaign is going well rather than that it has succeeded, but the NCCL now has an official policy of not offering advice on the basis of a breach of civil liberty, without reference to political belief.

An organization for the defence of civil liberties which distinguishes one client from another according to the favour in his button hole, and refuses service to those sporting the wrong one, is very considerably worse than useless. The NCCL, as those who have followed its fortunes will know, has more than once rendered itself a nullity; not long before the Second World War it became, and remained for some years, little more than a Communist Party front, and with the spread and rise of Trotskyite groupuscules in the late 1960s it took on their colouring in much the same way.

All that we were recently promised, was, or shortly would be, a thing of the past. A new general

secretary, Mr Larry Gostin, had publicly declared that it was his aim to broaden the scope and political range of the council's work and to gain all-party support. He did indeed succeed in the latter aim, by attracting a very wide selection of commendation for his organization on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, and he certainly seemed to be serious in the former aim also: he strongly opposed the conference decision to deny help to those of the wrong political persuasion. (Incidentally, Mr Gostin is an American; so is the director of the British section of Amnesty; so is the young lady who invents statistics for Mr Scargill. I am notoriously pro-American, but I am even more Pro-British; at a time of very high unemployment in this country, it is really impossible for such posts to be filled by those who are native here and to the manner born?)

I have repeatedly pointed out that those people whose excursions into controversy go no further than a wish to draw attention to the beauty of daffodils, the health-giving properties of freshly-squeezed orange juice and the fact that in any right-angled triangle the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides do not need an organization to help them keep their civil liberties, because no one is trying to take these away. I summed up the important truth behind that principle with the unambiguous, though perhaps indelicate, formulation: "Free speech is for bastards too".

And in practice it is only the bastards who have to go to the NCCL to have their rights protected.

This is a matter of principle, but there is a matter of practice which, even if it has no connexion with the

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Robin Cook

Save your local think tank

Tomorrow, citizens of large tracts of Britain go to the polls to elect councillors to safeguard their local interests. With a timing which reveals a near contempt for local government, the Prime Minister chose last weekend to repeat her satisfaction at having challenged what she termed "the vested interest" of local authorities.

It is possible to cavil at the use of the phrase "vested interest" to describe bodies which are elected by universal suffrage on a franchise open to every adult citizen within their border. There is no denying the vigour with which Mrs Thatcher's two administrations have set about curbing their freedom and subjecting them to central imperatives. Not a parliamentary bill has passed without fresh bills to provide for the rate-capping or knee-capping of local authorities until they are now thoroughly hobbled by the purse strings.

Notoriously, the metropolitan councils face the ultimate sanction of becoming divested interests, and legislation is in train to relieve their residents of the troublesome business of going to the polling stations. The more widespread danger is that the surviving local councils will be so hedged in by central directives and sapped of financial resources that they will represent only the trappings of local democracy - sort of elective gauleiters, chosen locally but controlled centrally. It is a measure of the success of the New Right in concentrating power in central authority that it should be necessary to restate the case for local democracy.

At

the centre-right coalition on the TUC general council which was supposed to enjoy a two-to-one majority collapsed under these hammer blows, undermining the Murray stance at the same time.

Murray's aides - and there are none more loyal - were last night insisting that there are no deep political reasons for his early retirement. But he has not been absent from work through illness of late, despite his heart attack eight years ago, and if he is sick he may just be sick of the internal wrangling within the TUC.

At the Scottish TUC conference two weeks ago, the resolution seeking to reassert trade union defiance of the Government's labour laws was bland enough, but the speeches were unmittingly hostile to the Murray line of no all-out conflict with the Government. That pressure was to have been kept up all through the summer months by leaders of the NGA, who have not forgotten or forgiven the general council's "betrayal" of their stand against the law.

By this source - a long-standing member of the general council - he was not judged a success in his punishing job. He came to office when the general council was dominated by two key figures - Jack Jones of the transport workers and Hugh Scanlon of the engineers.

When they retired, to be replaced by the less inspiring Moss Evans and Terry Duffy respectively, there was a vacuum of power that Murray himself eventually filled, but not effectively. The "new realism" of the last congress, which produced a general council that should have been receptive to Murray's policies and style, in fact proved to be more elusive than expected.

In the private committees, where the general secretary can usually count on getting his own way, Murray suffered two serious setbacks in recent months. In the economic committee his insistence on continued participation in the NEDC failed when the traditionally moderate General and Boilermakers' Union sided with the left, and in the employment policy and organization committee a paper from his staff on the Trade Union Bill was judged to be too timid and was sent back to be hardened up.

To most people, these may appear mere pinpricks, but in the context of the TUC they were perhaps the beginning of the end. Murray's departure has been a well-kept secret for nearly a week, but his fellow leaders have not spent the time trying to persuade him to stay.

principle, is an important clue to the NCCL's attitude to its responsibilities. We shall continue to need some kind of body to defend our civil liberties until the Home Office is razed to the ground, the ruins sown with salt and all its inhabitants shipped off to Devil's Island with no hope to return. But there are constant threats as well as government threats to civil liberties, and the greatest of these for some years now has been the conduct of some trade unions in practising coercion and intimidation against their members and others. Among the range of union practices which deny civil liberties, the worst are the institutions of the closed shop and the methods used to enforce it. And what has been the response of the NCCL? To look the other way.

It was the Freedom Association, not the NCCL, which helped the six employees of British Rail to fight and win their case, at the European Court, against being dismissed for not belonging to a union.

The case offered, as perhaps its most grotesque and repulsive aspect, the spectacle of a minister in a Conservative government - the Solicitor-General - arguing the case for their dismissal. The NCCL, by its conduct in this area, has consistently made clear that it does not regard the closed shop or the wretched tyrannies it has spawned as any kind of diminution of civil liberties; it is chiefly that fact that led me, in my first words today, to suggest that it has acted more as a body concerned with left-wing

and the high ground of moral principle.

The failure of the official Opposition has provided the opportunity for a much nastier unofficial opposition to gather momentum. The first clear signs are emerging among the miners. When he addressed the NUM faithful in Sheffield on April 19, Arthur Scargill did not simply change his union's rules. He confirmed his role as a leader of a new, extra-parliamentary political force.

Walking among the crowd of militant young miners that day, I did not hear one good word for the Labour Party. Instead, their hopeful faces were turned up to a scaffolding platform, behind the City Hall, from which hard-left political rhetoric was offered with a seasoning of free beer, presumably financed by the union, and occasional songs.

We were all waiting for Scargill. The morning wore on. A toothless warrior, covered in badges, stood to attention to sing a Scottish love song. More effective than any number of police officers, he brought several thousand miners to a complete stop. Other speakers made extravagant and florid personal attacks Mrs Thatcher and on the police. They were all received with cheers.

Scargill and his lieutenants have seized these men and welded them into a new crusade against a new class of infidels, the Thatcherites.

Though Scargill has a declared aim within the industry - the withdrawal of the decision to close uneconomic pits - his consistent and open submerging of this objective when addressing his troops, enables him to prolong the struggle whatever happens in the industry. Even if the Coal Board accedes to all his demands he would soon find another excuse for more militant action against "Thatcher's Bonapartist dictatorship". Another Grunwick would present itself.

Such extraparliamentary opposition cannot be defeated in the body politic by high coal stocks at the power stations or by the police upholding the law. These men will have to be defeated in the soul politic, too. The sensible majority of ordinary Britons, including miners, must be inspired to persuade the new opposition that it is unacceptable.

If Mr Kinnock would express himself clearly on this issue he would regain support as well as honour. The official Opposition would become, once more, the real opposition.

point of principle that local communities should be free to settle for themselves the quality of local services, and to determine locally the extent to which rates should be increased to improve on them. That principle is reflected in the Whitehall regulations local authorities to submit to homogenised levels of service, and Westminster legislators for a standardised amount of rates increase.

In some respects, however, are more draconian than Parliament. Having served in both, I can testify that the committee system of local government enables the individual councillor to participate in decision-making, while the ritual clash of whipped parties on the floor of the Commons is preserved by the business manager precisely because it excludes backbench members from decision-making, which is confined to the Treasury bench.

Patrick Jenkins: his plans to control the councils will mean not only the death of local democracy but will stifle the social innovation that has been of benefit nationally

Such considerations illustrate why local authorities should be preserved, but it would be a major mistake to allow Whitehall's assault on local authorities to set the agenda of debate so that the case for local democracy is presented in only defensive terms.

Local democracy should be fostered and promoted because it is a creative force with the potential to discover novel solutions to social problems and to pioneer fresh means of meeting community needs. If we take an historical sweep of our public services we will find that from municipal transport to comprehensive education the original concept and the first experiments were nurtured at local level and it was the demonstration of local success that led to national application. The real cost of the multiple shackles of the past five years is that in bringing local authorities under central control, they may have crushed the flowering of innovation at local level.

If this centripetal trend is to be arrested, all those concerned by it must turn out to be counted tomorrow among those who value and use their local democracy. The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

David Hart

Kinnock? Ah yes, I remember him

Mrs Thatcher's government, whatever its failings, is not seen as weak. Where there is strong government, in a free country, there will be strong opposition. It is almost a law of social equilibrium. If this opposition is not articulated in Parliament, it will try to find other channels for its expression.

The honeymoon is over for Mr Kinnock, and the opinion polls begin to reflect it. He has been unable to conceal the bankruptcy of his economic argument in the face of a recovery that is now plain. Council house sales have been popular with his constituents, as is deflation. He has failed to capture the high ground of moral principle.

The failure of the official Opposition has provided the opportunity for a much nastier unofficial opposition to gather momentum. The first clear signs are emerging among the miners. When he addressed the NUM faithful in Sheffield on April 19, Arthur Scargill did not simply change his union's rules. He confirmed his role as a leader of a new, extra-parliamentary political force.

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THE CHINA CARD

President Reagan has had a rather bumpy ride in China but that was to be expected. There are too many unresolved issues between the two countries for the visit to have been a smooth celebration of amity. This will not necessarily damage the President amongst his own voters. Some may see the censoring of his remarks by Chinese television as a rebuff; others may applaud him for not trimming his remarks to take account of Chinese sensibilities. At any rate, some such calculation must have been behind his decision to talk about religion and free enterprise in an officially atheist, communist state. His image at home, after all, is that of a sincere, straight-speaking man who has no great need for the subtleties of traditional diplomacy. He gave it to the Chinese straight, and if they did not like it, that was their problem. Reports that he nodded off during a ceremony may stimulate more comment than other weightier matter.

However, some of those more concrete issues are not so easily disposed of. Taiwan is the most obvious. The Chinese made it clear that the Americans should "not interfere" in the reunification of Taiwan with China. President Reagan, this time uncensored, insisted that while he would encourage a peaceful solution "we don't believe it would be right to cast aside long-time old friends in order to make new friends". Chinese

complaints about continuing though diminishing deliveries of American arms to Taiwan were rebuffed. To expect anything better than a state of manageable disagreement on this issue would be unrealistic.

The Chinese reaction to President Reagan's remarks on the Soviet Union should also have been no cause for surprise. The Chinese are cautiously mending fences with the Soviet Union, not with any hope of a warm relationship but in order to avoid unnecessary tension and maintain the balance of their foreign policy. They will shortly be receiving a high-level visitor from Moscow. It was therefore easily predictable that they would not wish to provide a platform for American attacks on the Soviet Union. Perhaps they were even a little surprised by the attacks in view of the relatively friendly communication which Mr Reagan sent recently to Mr Chernenko. In any case not to have censored Mr Reagan's more hostile remarks on Chinese soil would have looked like an endorsement of them, especially to the Russians who have been reacting nervously to the visit.

Chinese policy towards the Soviet Union is fundamentally consistent, even if tactics vary. Its main aim is to maintain an antagonistic balance between the super powers but will not be drawn by either into alliance against the other.

This still leaves considerable scope for fruitful relations between Washington and Peking. Although there are differences over the Middle East and Central America, there is a common interest in preventing Soviet expansion in Asia, and the growth of Soviet power in general. There is also considerable scope for trade as China pushes forward into modernization. In spite of its more pragmatic attitude, China today is still a communist state with many unresolved political and economic problems. It will not greet Western influence with open arms. Yet the opportunities are there, both political and economic, for the West to strengthen a relationship that is bound to remain central to global security.

TESTING, TESTING

British sixth-formers know more about their exam subjects than their peers in almost any other country, unfortunately they know almost nothing else. Education after sixteen in this country is intense but narrow, and pupils subjected to the stereotype of the three-A-level regime have all too little time to look outside it and build upon the fast-fading remnants of the little learning they acquired in O-level days. Even dons have begun to notice it, and complain – though it is done who must in the last resort bear much of the blame. Sir Keith Joseph's proposals for new exams designed to enable full-time A-level students (and some others) to widen their area of study will not work, unless the institutions of higher education that those students have set their ambitions on treat the new courses seriously.

In spite of considerable expressed goodwill in higher education, the time is not altogether propitious. Though the Government is reluctant to admit it because of the cost implications, the best evidence indicates that demand for higher education is going to increase throughout the rest of this century, even though the overall number of young people in that age-range is likely to decline for most of that period. If higher education is unable to cater for a greater demand, competition will grow more intense, and students will be reluctant to take risks in the courses they choose. At the same time, smaller schools and sixth-form colleges may not be eager to invest in untried courses. Higher education will have to

make it clear, through each university's official Requirements for Admission, that the risk is going to be worth taking.

The need is plain, and widely admitted. Last month, Oxford University told the University Grants Committee that the need for a broader sixth-form curriculum was "urgent". Three-quarters of A-level candidates drop either the humanities or science and maths completely at the age of 15 or 16. The result, when they get to college, is too often that the former are inarticulate (so their teachers bitterly complain) and the latter innumerate (their teachers may not always be qualified to notice). The dreadful plunge into a world unrelievedly scientific or relentlessly humane is one of the most dismal milestones of a school career. It is one of the causes of the "two cultures" divide which still runs through British society. Even within the two intellectual fortresses, the A-level pattern is often too inflexible to meet the needs of some students.

But the pattern has been formed chiefly by the requirements of higher education. General studies and non-exam courses have won little favour because they count little towards securing a college place. There is no avoiding the fact that a less narrow sixth-form regime will mean that university entrants are less thoroughly versed in the groundwork of their courses. The school week is only so long, and greater breadth can only be bought at the cost of some reduction in depth.

However, the change coincides with a reappraisal of

patterns in higher education too. The Principal of Newnham College, Cambridge, claimed last month, for instance, that degree courses are too much formed by the needs of the minority of students aiming to go into research, and that lightening the course load might produce less dissatisfaction in the majority, and an output of more graduates and better teachers. The more intense the competition to enter a particular field, the more students may fear taking risks with the new courses. Medicine is the most extreme case of a discipline where demand is often alleged to cause selectors to concentrate on academic attainment at the expense of other qualities valuable in a communicating and caring profession.

Sir Keith shows an awareness of the dangers in his insistence on quality: the new exams are to be intellectually on a par with A-levels, though covering less ground, and to be closely co-ordinated with them in syllabus, but with an emphasis on practical applications that may provide some counterweight to the tendency for the claims of the academic to prevail over those of the practical in Britain. They are to be marked by objective criteria, not so as to give a certain proportion of candidates a win (a requirement even more desirable with an experimental exam than it would be with the A-level itself). Universities must respond to all this constructively. But ultimately the esteem the new exams will depend on the impression its products make on college selectors, and on employers.

INSIDE NUMBER TEN

Inside most men and women with a strong interest in public affairs there lurks a would-be adviser to a prime minister. Consider the attractions. Without the need to suffer the indignity of the selection process to become a parliamentary candidate and the exhaustion of an election, or even the rigorous requirements of the Civil Service Selection Board and the steady plod to high Whitehall office, you can have the ear of the mighty. Hobby-horses when translated into a Prime Minister's Minute acquire the ability to run and run where, in less exalted circumstances, they could fall at the first fence, victims of scepticism and conventional wisdom. Yet the life of a prime minister's intimate can be perilous. One slip and you plunge into outer darkness. The safe route is conformity to the known preferences of the patron. That path is itself a form of death, according to Sir Alfred Sherman, a Thatcher intimate from the Centre for Policy Studies stable, in his lecture at the London School of Economics last night. He would sooner, he said, face political death than become a courtier.

Mrs Thatcher's premiership has been singular for several reasons. One unusual aspect has been the cluster of former advisers who have gone public on their craft while she is still in No 10 (indeed, Sir Alfred, who was never on the Whitehall payroll, can still be called an adviser in the informal sense of the word). The couple who have lectured on the subject in the past five days, Sir Alfred and Mr

Whitehall greybeards, those whom Hugh Dalton called "congenital snaghunters" to stop the "creative" ones getting out of hand. Such a team also needs a fixer or two, someone who knows where the bodies are buried in Whitehall, someone who can decode the real meaning of bland departmental submissions that cross the prime minister's desk. In short, what is needed is a cabinet on the French model. In her expanded Policy Unit, Mrs Thatcher has something very close to it.

The existence of her second-term Policy Unit under the leadership of Mr John Redwood, raised two questions, one internal the other external. Does it pass the Sherman test of eschewing sycophancy and of telling the "patron" only those things she has "not heard before, but which once heard impress themselves"? Does it, put another way, speak truth to power? If it is so valuable to the Prime Minister why cannot her more heavily burdened Cabinet ministers have their own cabinets? The Treasury and the Foreign Office are pivotal institutions. Defence, Health and Social Security and Environment are big businesses as well as great departments of state. They would surely be more manageable if their secretaries of state each had a team of innovators, snag hunters and fixers? Or is that asking too much of a Prime Minister who, like all her recent predecessors in No 10, too often feels cornered or outnumbered when faced with the departmental satrapies that surround her?

Archbishop and miners' strike

From the Archbishop of York

Sir, Forgive me for returning to a small matter which has already received far more publicity than it deserves. However, Mr Enoch Powell has, for reasons best known to himself, chosen to launch an extraordinary attack on my personal integrity, concerning a private letter I wrote some weeks ago to a miners' leader in my former diocese. And you yourself, Sir, have compounded the error in a leading article (April 28) and by a headline in which you describe me as supporting the miners' strike. May I therefore set the record straight?

My original letter was written in reply to a request for support and began by pointing out that in the Durham coalfield pit closures have been carried out on a massive scale, and with very little friction, for many years. I then drew attention to two main issues in the present dispute, the question of jobs and the question of long-term energy resources, and pointed out the need for caution.

It seemed to me at the time that the dispute was in danger of moving into areas about which rational discussion was impossible and my sole purpose in writing was to remind my correspondents of the basis on which Durham's excellent record of negotiation might be continued. I did not see myself as either supporting the strike or condemning it. That is not my business. In fact when I wrote it I felt that my letter erred on the side of being platitudinous.

Mr Powell based his attack on the sentence, "I believe we owe it to future generations not to close pits before they are properly worked out". By a very curious argument, which it is not necessary to repeat, he claimed that the word "properly" could be interpreted as meaning "no longer capable of yielding coal that can be disposed of for not less than its costs to mine".

He then accused me of not admitting openly that this is what I meant and made this the basis of a charge of moral and religious bankruptcy. Mr Powell once had a reputation for clear and rigorous logic, but I must confess that the logic of this particular argument escapes me.

The word "properly", in the sentence which he subjected to such tortuous analysis, takes its colour from the previous paragraph about successful pit closures. The simple and only point I have been concerned to make is that there is a civilised way of dealing with pit closures in which all the factors, human, economic and long-term, are balanced against one another and used as a basis for negotiated agreements.

It would be better for all concerned if those in the public eye tried to reapture this vision instead of indulging in foolish polemics.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN EBOR,
Bishopthorpe,
York.
April 30.

Holding one's own

From Mr Dennis White

Sir, Professor Thurstan Shaw (April 21) in his excellent letter on other people's cultural property writes, inter alia: "How should we feel if Argentina held Magna Carta...?" I suggest that we should feel as the Scots feel about us having the Stone of Destiny.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS WHITE,
8 Nelson Street,
Dundee.
April 21.

Keeping jail balance

From Vice-Admiral Sir Anthony Troup

Sir, Mr H. J. Appleton (April 23) has put our position as members of boards of visitors clearly and succinctly. However, I believe there is too little public knowledge about the plight of those held on remand.

If it was known, for instance, that some youths are held for six months or more in this state they would, I suggest, be appealed and that is why, in my view, Mr Morgan's article of April 7 is so important and why we, as members of boards, must continue to press for improvement.

The knock-on effect of time on remand for those sentenced to youth custody makes a nonsense for the many caring and hardworking prison staff who try so hard to correct and rehabilitate young offenders, but now have little time to do other than lock them up. It is quite common to receive youths with 12-month sentences with only four months to serve because of the time they have been kept on remand.

Surely we are long overdue in adopting the Scottish system, which requires all offenders to be brought to trial within 110 days?

Yours faithfully,
TONY TROUP,
Bridge Gardens,
Hungerford,
Berkshire.
April 23.

The easy option

From the Reverend Richard Willcock

Sir, The report of Prebendary Arthur Royal on ecclesiastical appointments (report, April 19) confirms the evidence of one's own eyes. The Holy Spirit does appear to blow from the north, backing southerly only when measurements for gaiters are taken.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WILLCOCK,
St Michael's Vicarage,
389 Bury and Rochdale Old Road,
Heywood,
Lancashire.
April 19.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Crackdown on diplomatic abuses

From Mr Peter Foster

Sir, Inevitably, a lot of nonsense is being written about the implications of the St James's Square incident and its antecedents. It ranges from the totally irresponsible – e.g., that we should send a punitive expedition to Libya to extract an apology and reparation for the murder of Yvonne Fletcher – to the obviously unrealistic – e.g., that the searching of diplomatic bags should be authorized on application by the International Court, the suspect bag presumably being held in bond while the legal action proceeded. May I suggest, if not a solution, at least a few practical parameters?

We have to start from the virtually certain assumption that the communist countries, not to go further and leaving aside mavericks like Gaddafi, would never accept a system of inspection, would block any attempt to set one up by international agreement and would take instant reprisals if any attempt were made to impose one on them.

The approach to tightening up on current abuse would have to be, therefore, through bilateral reciprocity, i.e., special restrictions applied between ourselves and specific countries. They could, for example, be made a prior condition of the resumption of diplomatic relations with Libya, if and when that time comes. We would thus not be unilaterally abrogating the Vienna Convention, only modifying it to redress the balance of power.

Bilaterally agreed and reciprocally applied restrictions might take the form of granting immunity not to whole "pouches" (the size of a kidbag) but only to individual packages of strictly limited size and weight, capable perhaps of concealing small quantities of drugs or plastic explosive, but not firearms. Larger items, which we should ourselves need to send by secure means from time to time, e.g., cipher machines and other security equipment, would have to be subject to X-ray examination.

Confidential correspondence, for which the diplomatic pouch was originally invented, would present the least problem of all: modern automated cypher systems linked by diplomatic wireless or telex have already replaced to a large extent and could replace almost entirely the transmission of paper. Of course Gaddafi might refuse to accept the "humiliation" of such "discriminatory" conditions for resuming diplomatic relations. But would that be so sad? And an important corollary would be readiness on our part to break relations as soon as reasonable evidence of abuse had accumulated, rather than waiting for indisputable proof by public tragedy.

This could create some further redundancies in the Foreign Office's establishment, in Damascus, for example, as well as Tripoli. But the job of diplomats, as of other public servants, is to protect their country's interests, which include the uphold-

ing of international standards of civilized conduct.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FOSTER,
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1.

April 28.

From Mr John Gouriet

Sir, Mr Maloney's thoughtful letter (April 25) highlights several points on which, if HM Government, or at least Cobra (Cabinet Office briefing room) have taken cognisance, there is little evidence of action.

Some so-called "civilised" people

may eschew the time-honoured penalty of "an eye for an eye", but followers of the Koran still respect such a daunting deterrent.

The additional safeguard approved by the House of Commons on April 12 (local authorities in designated rural areas already have the right to impose 10-year pre-emption covenants on all sales) would enable local authorities in those areas to apply to the Secretary of State to have individual elderly persons' dwellings exempted from the right to buy.

This safeguard would apply not only to the 22 areas described by Mr Thompson, but also to areas covered by the national parks and to all designated areas of outstanding natural beauty. In all some 170 local authorities in England and Wales would be affected to a greater or lesser extent.

As I made clear in the House on April 12, in considering future applications from local authorities for designation as rural areas, the Secretary of State will take account of any representations on the problems faced by a particular area in meeting the housing needs of the elderly.

The House of Commons also approved on April 12 an additional safeguard which will allow authorities selling elderly persons' dwellings to impose a pre-emption covenant over a period of 21 years, not merely when a dwelling is sold but also when it passes on death to a non-resident beneficiary other than a surviving spouse.

I emphasise that sheltered accommodation and housing owned by charitable housing associations (of which the National Agricultural Centre Housing Association is one) will remain excluded from the right to buy.

Yours faithfully,
IAN GOW,
Department of the Environment,
2 Marsham Street, SW1.
April 30.

Housing needs of rural elderly

From the Minister for Housing and Construction

Sir, I write to correct some misunderstandings in the letter (April 23) from Mr Robin Thompson, of the National Agricultural Centre Housing Association, and others on proposals in the Housing and Building Control Bill to safeguard the position of elderly persons' dwellings in rural areas under the right to buy.

The additional safeguard approved by the House of Commons on April 12 (local authorities in designated rural areas already have the right to impose 10-year pre-emption covenants on all sales) would enable local authorities in those areas to apply to the Secretary of State to have individual elderly persons' dwellings exempted from the right to buy.

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Department of the Environment,
2 Marsham Street, SW1.
April 30.

Sharing our heritage

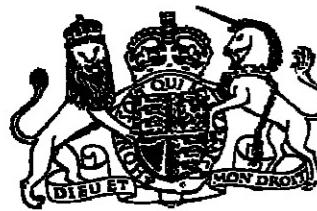
From Mr Fred Uhlman

Sir, In reply to Professor Shaw's letter (April 30) that there is no way that I have been collecting African art for over 50 years and have just presented my collection to a British museum?

I know for certain that without the interest of Europeans, some of them artists like Picasso, Braque, Matisse, Epstein, who were deeply influenced by African art – see Picasso's "Les Demoiselles d'Avignon" – thousands of the most precious masks and fetishes would have been destroyed by the climate and the termites, but most of all by the total lack of interest by the Africans themselves, who threw marvellous old pieces away or sold them for the price of a goat or sheep to dealers.

Many of us hoped that with independence the situation would improve, but alas, it has grown worse. Instead of protecting their most sacred objects, some corrupt chieftains are still selling aeroplane loads to dealers, who in turn sell them for huge prices in Paris, London and New York.

Professor Shaw, whose views I share, will probably be shocked by this revelation, but nothing can be done to protect the African heritage so long as the Africans themselves



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 1: His Excellency Mr Jek Yeun Thong and Mrs Jek were received in farewell audience by the Queen and took leave upon His Excellency's returning his appointment as High Commissioner for the Republic of Singapore in London.

Lieutenant-General M.C.L. Wilkins had the honour of being received by Her Majesty on his appointment as Commander General Royal Marines.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland and Mrs Paddon had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh attended the Marriages of Abercavenny, Sir William Heseltine and Major Hugh Lindsay, left Euston Station in the Royal Train this evening for Liverpool.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General, Royal Marines this morning received Lieutenant-General Sir Stewart Pringle. On relinquishing his appointment as Commander General Royal Marines M.C.L. Wilkins on assuming the appointment.

The Duke of Edinburgh attended the 1984 Design Council Awards Ceremony at the Royal Air Force Museum, Hendon.

Having been received by the Director of the Museum (Dr John Tanner) the Chairman of the Design Council (Sir William Barlow) and the Director (Mr Keith Grant), His Royal Highness toured the Design Council's exhibition of members of award-winning companies presented the awards and afterwards was entertained at luncheon.

His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a dinner given by Lloyd's of London. Press Ltd (Chairman, Michael Davies) to mark the 250th Anniversary of *Lloyd's List*.

His Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Right Hon the Lord Mayor (Dame Mary Donaldson).

The Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Save the Children Fund, this morning received a Land-Rover from British Leyland at Solihull and met the winners of *The Sunday Times* Competition.

The Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the West Midlands the Earl of Aylesford.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chancellor of the University of London, this afternoon visited the Royal Holloway College, Egham, Surrey (Principal, Dr F. R. Miller).

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Vice-Lord Lieutenant for Surrey (Major James More-Molyneux) and the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Professor Randolph Quirk).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Olympic Association, and Captain Mark Phillips, this evening attended the British Sports Ball (Chairman, Mr Eddie Kulukundis) at the Royal Albert Hall, London, this afternoon at St Andrew's, Holborn.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. D. P. Barnes and Miss H. R. Everett

The engagement is announced between Captain David Paine, third son of Mr and Mrs David Barnes, of Cornwall Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Helen Rosalind, younger daughter of the late Henry Everett and Mrs Henry Everett of Priory Walk, The Boltons, London SW10.

Mr E. A. Davis and Miss S. M. Hassall

The engagement is announced between Elton Davis, The Royal Corps of Signals, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. F. Davis, of Seaton, Devon, and Susan, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Hassall, of Willington, Tarporley, Cheshire.

Mr S. Fogel and Miss T. M. Kornberg

The engagement is announced between Shlomo, younger son of Mr and Mrs Leon Fogel, of Tel Aviv, and Tania Michal, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Justin Kornberg, of Kensington, London.

Mr G. M. Hopkins and Miss W. S. Lewis

The engagement is announced between Giles, son of Mr John Mitchell Hopkins, of Uxbridge, Switzerland, and Mrs Janet Duncan, of Hamilton, Ontario, and Wendy Sara, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Lewis of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Mr M. T. Patchett-Joyce and Miss A. J. Worthington

The engagement is announced between Michael Thurston, only son of Professor and Mrs Keith Patchett, of Cyncoed, Cardiff, and Alexandra Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicolas Worthington of Printed, West Sussex.

Mr N. H. Vere Nicoll and Miss C. V. Wentz

The engagement is announced between Neville Henry, youngest son of Lt-Col and Mrs H. M. Vere Nicoll of Manton, Rutland, and Carrie Virginia, only daughter of Dr and Mrs W. R. Wentz, of Durham, North Carolina.

Battisborough School, Devon

Summer Term began on Monday, April 30. Steven Samuel continues as the guardian. Open day is on July 4 and term ends on July 6.

Trent College

Trent College opened on April 30 for the Summer Term. Duncan Paul continues as head of school and Hugh White is captain of cricket. The O/T reunion is to be on Saturday, May 5 for those who entered Trent between 1944-55. Brigadier J. J. Davy will inaugurate the CCF on Friday, May 24. The Summer ball is to be on Saturday, July 7 and Old Tridians' day on Sunday, July 8. The guest of honour at speech day on Friday, July 13, will be Sir Kenneth Corfield, Chairman of Standard Telephones and Cables plc and Chairman of the Engineering Council.

Wycliffe College

Term started on Monday, April 30. The centenary of Haywardsfield will be celebrated on Friday, May 25, on which day half-term begins. The choir will concertise on Sunday, May 20 (Carmen) and Burton Mendelsohn's Violin Concerto. O/W day is on July 14. Speech day, at which Sir Adrian Cadbury will present the prizes, is on the last full day of term, July 17.

Latest wills

Miss Kathleen Dale, of Addlestone, Surrey, pianist and musicologist, left estate valued at £342,849 net. Dr Jane Henderson Thompson, of Kent, Newcastle upon Tyne, left estate valued at £123,703 net. After various bequests she left the residue to Aberdeen University, "specifically to help in the founding of a professorial chair in the department of English."

Dr Bernard Edward Schlesinger, of Buxton, Derbyshire, senior physician at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, left estate valued at £334,977 net.

Triple success for North

By a Bridge Correspondent Northern pairs finished in the first three places in the English Women's Bridge Trust's annual London International Hotel over the weekend. They have been selected to play for England in the Home Countries international series at the Moat House Hotel, Oxford on June 23.

Raymond Brock will be non-playing captain and although there are now three new caps in the side, England will start favourites to retain the Lady Milne Cup.

Mr J. J. Curran, Mrs C. E. Ray (North East), Mrs J. M. Peacock (Midlands), Mrs Pentland (Yorkshire) and Mrs Quigley (West) will represent the Roll; Mr R. E. Silvester.

Science report

When babies measure up to casual smokers

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Babies whose parents or other relatives smoke cigarettes can absorb tobacco smoke to such an extent that their bodies show traces similar to those of some very light smokers, according to a new study.

The concentration of nicotine and its main metabolite, cotinine, were measured in the saliva and urine of 32 babies with household exposure to tobacco smoke, and 19 unexposed babies. The concentrations were significantly higher in the exposed group.

Concern is increasingly expressed about the effects of smoking on "passive" smokers, those who are exposed to

the habit without indulging in it. Previous studies have found direct links between parental smoking and illness of the lower respiratory tract and irritations of the inner ear in young children.

The new study, at the department of paediatrics at North Carolina University, tried to determine the usefulness of measuring salivary and urinary concentrations of nicotine and cotinine as indicators of the exposure of infants to "sidestream" smoke.

Some of the concentrations were within the range found in very light smokers. An earlier study had found that the amount of smoke absorbed by non-smokers could reach concentrations similar to those of smoking up to three cigarettes in the preceding three to four hours.

"Comparing the ranges of nicotine and cotinine in our exposed infants with those found in studies of active smokers, we have reached similar conclusions," the authors of the latest study say.

The results suggest that urinary cotinine excretion may be the most useful indicator of childhood exposure to tobacco smoke in infants and young children. However, the authors add, its sensitivity, specificity and range of predictive values need to be established.

Subjects representing the full spectrum of exposures found in the general population. Source: *New England Journal of Medicine*, April 26, 1984.

Builders Merchants' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Builders Merchants' Company to serve from October 23: Master: Mr M. H. Vinden; Senior Warden: Mr S. F. Fairlie; Junior Warden: Mr D. B. Wilson; Keeper of the Roll: Mr R. E. Silvester.

Officers: Mr J. Curran, Mrs C. E. Ray (North East), Mrs J. M. Peacock (Midlands), Mrs Pentland (Yorkshire) and Mrs Quigley (West).

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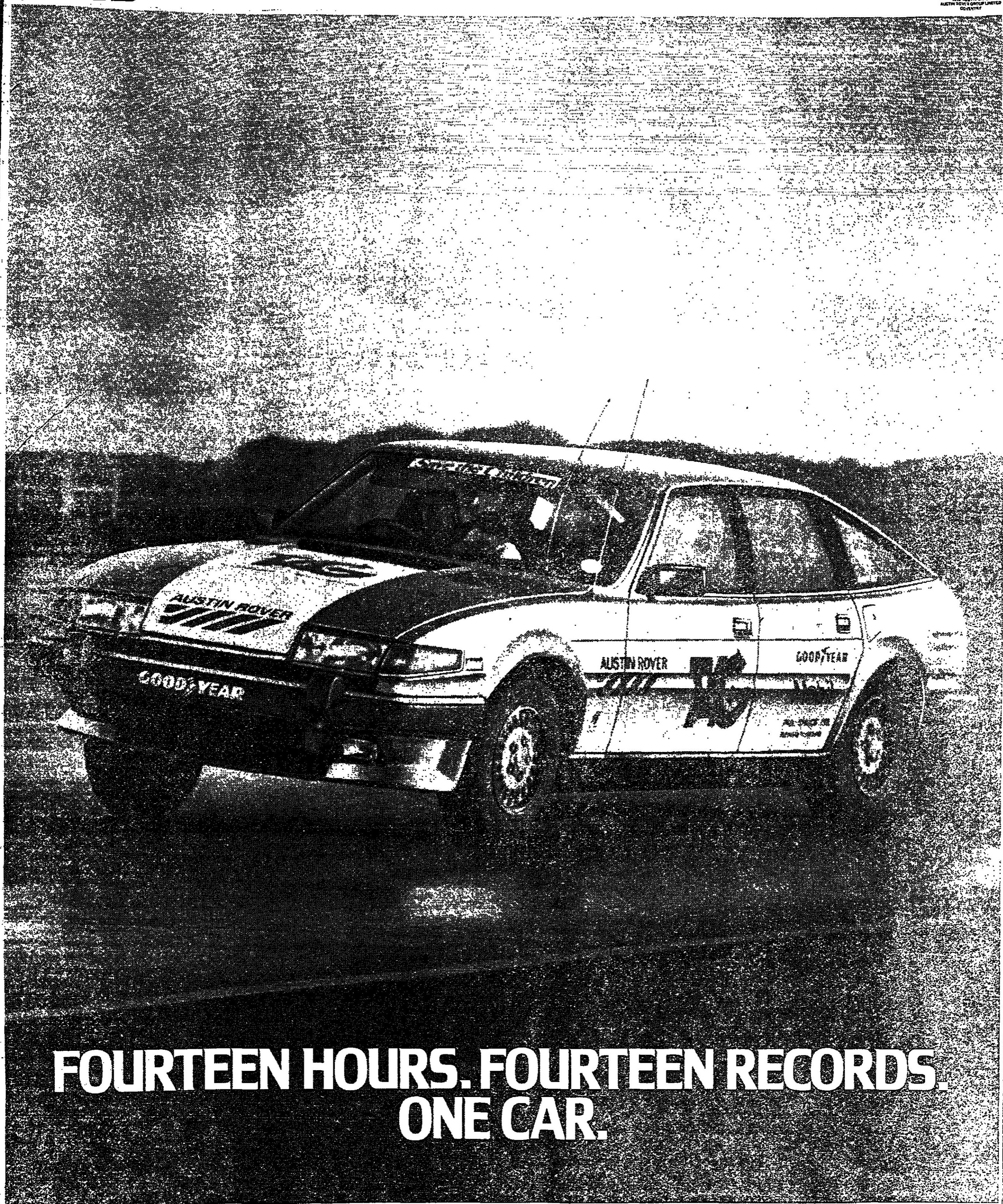
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AUSTIN ROVER

BY APPOINTMENT
TO THE QUEEN
MANUFACTURERS OF ROVER CARS
AND AUSTIN CARS
AUSTIN ROVER COMPANY LIMITED
COVENTRY



FOURTEEN HOURS. FOURTEEN RECORDS. ONE CAR.

On 6th December 1983, a Rover SD Turbo broke no less than 14 British speed records for diesel-driven cars.*

In mid-winter conditions.

From the 5km record to the 500 mile record, the Rover SD Turbo, with

absolutely standard specification, and over a distance of more than 920 miles, proved itself to be a car bred for both speed and stamina.

All of which is a tribute to the power of good breeding.

ROVER
—SD TURBO—
DRIVING IS BELIEVING

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Blue chips cautious

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, April 30. Dealings end, May 11. Contango Day, May 14. Settlement Day, May 21.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

FT STOCK INDICES									
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES									
\$1.66 (\$1.60)									
FIXED INTEREST									
\$8.83 (\$8.80)									
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY									
\$15.5 (\$10.1)									
GOLD MINES									
\$72.8 (\$75.0)									
ORDINARY DIVIDEND YIELD									
4.24% (4.22%)									
EARNINGS YIELD									
2.79% (2.82%)									
P.E. RATIO (NET)									
12.33 (10.82)									
P.E. RATIO (NIL)									
11.75 (12.25)									

FT - ACTUARIES INDICES									
INDUSTRIAL GROUP									
\$53.32 (\$51.83)									
500 SHARE INDEX									
\$53.77 (\$53.43)									
*EARNINGS YIELD									
9.85% (9.85%)									
DIVIDEND YIELD									
4.14% (4.18%)									
P.E. RATIO (NET)									
12.62 (12.62)									
ALL SHARE INDEX									
\$54.74 (\$54.84)									
DIVIDEND YIELD									
4.33% (4.36%)									
(estimated)									

* Estimated

1983/84

High Low Stock

Price Chg/price pence % P/E

1983/84

High Low Company

Price Chg/price pence % P/E

1983/84

High Low Stock

Price Chg/price pence % P/E

1983/84

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1983/84

High Low Company

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1983/84

High Low Company

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

NatWest counts the cost of Lawson's bank tax

National Westminster's chairman, Lord Boardman, mixed metaphors but not words at the bank's annual meeting yesterday when he strongly criticized the Government's budget measures affecting the banks. The former Conservative minister said the clawback of deferred tax resulting from the changes in capital allowances and the decision to force the banks to become tax-collectors by moving to a composite rate system were "most unfortunate". They had already led to Barclays and National Westminster losing their American triple A debt ratings. Lord Boardman went on:

"There are not so many 'golden eggs' in the British economy that we can afford to 'clip the wings' of those that provide many of them. It is not contrary to the philosophy of the Government to penalize those sectors that have, as we have in this bank, succeeded so well against fierce international competition."

Whether the Treasury foresaw the full implications of what it was doing to the banks, we shall probably never know. It was certainly aware that there would be a large extra tax liability as deferred tax, not previously provided for, became payable at some point. In National Westminster's case the extra provision needed is £570m.

However, Lord Boardman revealed yesterday that National Westminster will probably have to take a further £80m dent in its capital because of the impact of tax variation clauses in leasing contracts. These clauses mean that rentals on some contracts will fall with the reduction in tax rates. Leasing contracts would become less valuable and because a large proportion of the profit on them is often taken in the early years, the banks now find that they have already taken too much profit on certain contracts.

Although the problem over tax variation clauses is rather different from the deferred tax clawback, National Westminster plans to deal with them both in the same way by meeting the extra provisions from accumulated retained profits, so as to avoid distorting the profit and loss account or affecting earnings.

Lord Boardman was equally critical of the Government's decision to impose the composite rate on the banks, a form of taxation which he described as "regressive" and unfair to non-taxpayers. He revealed that the banks were trying to persuade the Inland Revenue to agree not to apply the system to smaller balances.

The British Bankers' Association has also been lobbying MPs to back a number of amendments to the Finance Bill on composite rate tax and capital allowances in the probably vain hope that the Government can be persuaded to soften a little. The relevant clauses are being discussed in the House of Commons this week.

Looking both ways on interest rates

The problem with watching a myriad monetary dials, as the British authorities now do, is how to react when they are pointing in different directions.

The broad money measures, house prices and the exchange rate would all seem to point in the direction of higher interest rates. Sterling M3 rose sharply in March and City analysts expect another set of bad figures for the April banking month - a rise of 1 per cent or more would take sterling M3 well above the top of the official 6 to 10 per cent range in the first two months of the new target period. The broader measure society deposits, is rising more rapidly still.

House prices are now increasing by

North Sea output slips

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

North Sea oil output has fallen during March to slightly over 2.5 million barrels a day, still 400,000 barrels a day above the production ceiling of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries feels is Britain's "natural level of output".

Members of Opec still feel that Britain should keep its North Sea production to around 2.1 million barrels a day at a time when it is attempting to

enforce an overall 17.5 million barrel a day production limit.

However, Britain has always maintained that the Government has no power to limit output.

Figures issued by Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker, show that in March production fell to over 2.5 million barrels a day because of maintenance in several fields and that annual output is now averaging 2.37 million barrels a day.

Lord Jellicoe: first credit card

over 5 per cent in 1982 to 4.6 per cent last year which meant that we were doing less well than competitors.

"Of what the average American household buys, only half of one per cent is accounted for by British products. Our immediate target is to double that."

A breakdown of trade statistics shows how big a target is, even though the aim is to achieve the increase over five years. Total exports last year were worth £8.3 billion. However, when oil is extracted, the sales figure fell to £5.5 billion of which about a third (or £1.8 billion) was accounted for by consumer goods.

The campaign will have national advertising backing and will see the return, after three years, of government-subsidised sales missions for exporters in certain industries. There will also be free seminars during the coming year in Britain, and an increase in store share of the market fell from

promotions in America, again backed by BOTB cash.

The drive will get the full backing of ministers and big companies which serve British exporters, starting on May 13, when a week long to the US west coast by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has been deliberately timed to coincide with a trade mission sponsored by Barclays Bank and organized by the London Chamber of Commerce. A promotion group from the British Invisible Exports Council will be there at the same time.

The west coast is a particular target area. Lord Jellicoe said:

"Personal income is 18 per cent above the US national average.

Mr Frank Kennedy, Britain's New York-based director general of trade development, said: "Trading conditions in US were better last year than for five perhaps even eight or nine years."

Attack by bankers deepens doubts over future of CSI

By Philip Robinson

Fresh doubts were cast yesterday over whether the Council for the Securities Industry will survive proposed City changes to increase protection for Britain's investors.

The powerful Accepting Houses Committee, an elite of 16 top merchant banks, says the CSI, set up in 1978, has tried to cover too large an area and has failed to achieve enough credibility and practical usefulness.

The attack comes in the AHC's formal response to professor Laurence Gower's *Review of Investor Protection*, a two-year study with recommendations on how the City's rules and structure should be changed to protect the investor from the unscrupulous.

The City has consistently argued that self regulation rather than government control is the ideal way to police the City. But the AHC and others have gone so far as suggesting that, should self regulation not prove possible, a commission responsible to the Department

of Trade and Industry and made up of senior City representatives and civil servants, would take on the role.

The bankers are careful too

not to turn into an American-style Securities and Exchange Commission, but it is the first admission by a leading City group that self regulation may prove impossible.

Its views have deepened sharp split of opinion over the City's future structure which has emerged a various organizations have publicized their submissions to the Gower report.

Broadly, most accept that the best method would be self regulatory groups, organized by function, whose executive bodies would have control over the behaviour of members. This would mean that all those advisers dealing in one particular form of investment industry would go into one group. These groups would ultimately report to the department.

The split has developed over

whether the CSI should play a coordinating role to help set up the groups and later take a position between them and the department as the City's top policeman.

The Unit Trust Association has already rejected the idea of the CSI being implanted above its own regulatory group. The Association of Investment Trust Companies has now joined the attack, saying the CSI's membership and character would have to be changed if it were to have a place in the new structure.

The association says: "It does not appear in its present form to command the necessary degree of confidence in the minds of the general public at least. It has been criticized as being too cosy and secretive, ineffective and dominated by the sectional interests of the institutions which are its members."

But Mr David Tucker, managing director of M&G Securities, which is one of the top two unit trust groups on

Britain supports the CSI, but attacks the Gower report. He dislikes attempts to bunch life assurances and unit trusts under the same self regulatory control.

Meanwhile, the new Registry of Life Assurance Commission (Rolac) has welcomed the Gower report proposals on limiting the Commissions paid to intermediaries.

The suggestion of a separate self regulatory group is also put forward for itself by the Issuing Houses Association. Its 53 members deal with new issues business and raises fresh capital for companies.

Its submission suggests that all those involved in corporate finance in merchant banks and members of the Stock Exchange should come under one association which would include the Quotations Department of the Stock Exchange.

This, says the association, would establish a comprehensive corporate finance authority.

Stamp duty exemption

Companies which buy their own shares are to be exempted from paying stamp duty on the transactions, Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced in a written Parliamentary answer yesterday.

The Companies Act of 1981 allows companies to buy their own shares but although it exempted the company from paying Capital Gains Tax on any future issue of the cancelled shares, nothing was said about transfer duty.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1,136.8 down 1.5
(day's high 1,137.2; low, 1,133.1)

FT Index: 915.8 up 5.7

FT All Share: +0.06

Bargains: 20,001

Datastream USM Leaders Index: 115.12 up 0.42

New York: Dow Jones Ind. Average: (latest) 1,178.60 up 7.85

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,019 down 922 2.81

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1034.73 down 2.33

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling: \$1.3980 down 5pts

Index: 79.8 up 0.1

Dm: 3.8150 up 0.0150

Ff: 11.6950 up 0.0350

Dollar: 1.725 down 25

DM: 1.30 up 0.03

DM: 2.7260 up 0.0080

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling DM: 1.4000

Dollar: 2.7240

INTERNATIONAL

ECU n/a

SDR £0.748000

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates 8 1/2%

Finance houses base rate 9

Discount market loans week fixed 8 1/2%

3 month interbank 9 - 13 1/2%

Euro-currency rates:

3 month dollar 11 - 11 1/4%

3 month Dm 5 1/2 - 5 1/4%

3 month Fr 12 1/2 - 12 3/4%

US rates

Shares were suspended last week after plunging to only 7p following the sale by Mr Edward Nassar, a Swiss-based businessman, of part of his stake. Mr Nassar chairs another Midland Company, Blue Bind Confectionery.

Midland has suffered from a long-term decline in demand for products like valves, and also from import competition.

The company needed a cash injection of £2m to continue trading but the banks, led by the Bank of Scotland, declined to continue support after a detailed review of operations.

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Midland has suffered from a long-term decline in demand for products like valves, and also from import competition.

Mr Bill Mackay and Mr W M Roberts, of Ernst and Whinney, have been appointed receivers and are currently trying to untangle the group's complex accounts. They intend to continue the business while looking for buyers.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):

am \$376.40 pm \$376.50

close \$377.25-\$377.75 (E270.50)

New York (latest) \$377.75

Krugerrand (per coin): \$388.50-\$390 (E278.29)

Sovereigns (new): \$88.50-\$89.50 (\$63.75-64)

*Excludes VAT

1983 1984

£m £m

401.6 461.2

10.5 13.2

8.0 9.2

36.0 38.0

27.8p 31.7p

17.0p 22.2p

5.0p 6.0p

5.6 5.3

GEC cash reserves will aid companies

By Our City Editor

GEC, the turbines to washing machines group led by Lord Weinstein, is to use part of its £1.5 billion cash mountain to set up an outpatients' department for ailing companies.

After months of speculation, culminating in the £45m purchase of a 4 per cent stake in Distillers Company, GEC was finally drawn into issuing a statement last night on what it terms its "so-called cash mountain".

The statement says: "Because of GEC's positive cash flow, remunerative outlets will be sought for investment of money for the time being not required for the company's normal business.

"A part of the cash resources is being set aside for a specialized activity in this field, and the company may be able to assist management of companies in which it takes a stake to improve their performance to the general benefit."

The intention is that in this way, GEC will earn a better return on its money "in the long run" than deposits or interest-bearing securities.

And in an astonishing break with its normally cautious tone in public pronouncements,

Lord Weinstein: drawn into issuing a statement

GEC names Distillers, the Johnnie Walker whisky and Gordon's gin business, as the first client which it "may be able to assist".

On December 24 last year

The Times registered the accumulation of shares in Distillers, and last week it named GEC unequivocally as the buyer.

Since 1979, Distillers' turnover has grown from £940m to only £1.1 billion as the world lost its taste for scotch. Profits this year are expected to fall from the 1983 figure of £200m.

Midland has suffered from a

long-term decline in demand for products like valves, and also

from import competition.

Mr Bill Mackay and Mr W M

Roberts, of Ernst and Whinney,

have been appointed receivers

and are currently trying to

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hanson nears US Industries deal

By Michael Clark

Hanson Trust appears to be home and dry in its £531m (£370m) takeover bid for US Industries in the United States. The US Industries board said yesterday that it was withdrawing its objections to Hanson's \$23 a share offer because a management buy-out group had been unable to find the finance to mount a rival bid worth \$24. It said it was continuing its efforts to find the monies but "major obstacles remained to be overcome".

Sir Gordon White, the Hanson executive in charge of the group's extensive US operations, said: "I would like something a bit more positive like a recommendation to accept our bid and I am meeting the US Industries directors later to discuss this. But the signs are good."

Hanson shares surged 20p through the chart break point of 200p to a record high of 219p in response to the news. At this level the ordinary shares alone are worth £1.42 billion and on top of that there is considerable value built into the Hanson level.

The rest of the equity market remained in a cautious mood with investors still worried by US interest rates and possible selling of shares by US investors. However, turnover was last night described as light with most of the attention focused on second liners and takeover situations.

It was left up to a single handed effort by Distillers, the Johnnie Walker and White Horse scotch whisky to Gordon's Gin company, to keep the FT index's head above water. After yesterday's report in *The Times* that GEC had increased its holding to just over 4 per cent (worth a cool £47.25m) the

shares leapt 23p to a record high of 315p.

The statement from GEC regarding its acquisition and investment policy came too late to affect the price. In the event, the index closed at its high for the day 5.7 up at a record high of 915.8. The FT-SE 100 reflected a clearer trend closing 1.5 down at 1136.5.

Among the leaders, Allied Lyons rose 3p to 174p, BICC 3p to 263p, GEC 8p to 190p, Peninsula & Oriental 3p to 327p, Thorn EMI 2p to 634p and Trusthouse Forte 1p to 126p. But there were losses in BTTR 3p to 489p, Beecham 5p to 371p, Blue Circle 2p to 428p, Boots 2p to 179p, Bowater 3p to 311p, Glaxo 10p to 765p.

The bid whispers are again driving the rounds in Banks Harris McDougall and yesterday successfully cut short an early bout of selling to leave the shares unchanged at 90 1/2p. Word is 2 group of overseas buyers are putting together a deal and may be about to bid for 20% of Berliford's important 14.9 per cent stake. Berliford was unavailable for comment, but at this level RHM is valued at £2.4m.

Hawker Siddeley 4p to 458p, ICI 10p to 616p, TI Group 4p to 242p, and TI Group 2p to 260p.

Gilt spent another quiet day still overshadowed by the strength of the dollar and last week's announcement of a new £1,000m "lap" stock. Falls extended to 1% in longs, while at the shorter end prices were barely tested.

On the bid front, Martin Ford advanced 1 1/2p to 62p on the news that The Rochdale Canal Co had bought 800,000 shares equal to about 5.12 per cent of the total equity.

Rochdale Canal also holds a sizable stake in Stylo, which has just fought off an approach from Harris Queen's.

Events continued to move swiftly at Southern Stadium where the shares raced away 8p to a new high of 59p yesterday. In addition to the proposed board reshuffle, Yelverton Investments, Mr Jim Slater's latest public vehicle, has confirmed it owns 900,000 shares, or 17.67 per cent of the equity.

Southend's biggest rival GRA, which controls the majority of the organized dog racing tracks in Britain, also owns a near 30 per cent stake in the company and this has led to speculation that part of the group's property assets may be developed with the help of its new backers. GRA responded with a rise of 2p to 67p.

Europco has emerged as the buyer of Sir Benjamin Slade's stake in Richardson Westgarth. Europco confirmed it had bought 1.2 million shares from Shiristar for an undisclosed price following Sir Benjamin's resignation from the Richardson Westgarth board. Shares of Richardson closed hardened 1p to 30p.

Metal Closures held steady at 189p after Mr K. H. Fischer, a director, announced he bought extra 599,000 shares taking his total holding to 1.59 million, or just over the disclosable 5 per cent level.

London Overseas Freighters is continuing to have talks with its bankers over their continued support and is now attempting to arrange underwriting facilities for a rights issue as part of the conditions for continued support laid down by the bankers. Despite an improvement in freight rates further "substantial" losses will be

rights issue at 100p a share. As some Ansbacher shareholders have said they will waive their rights, the newcomers will acquire at least 17 per cent of the enlarged capital in this way.

NEWS IN BRIEF

• **LEGAL AND GENERAL:** The group is joining the European Banking company to market the European Banking Traded Currency Fund in Britain.

• **MICRO BUSINESS SYSTEMS:** The chairman, Mr

reported for the second half. The news clipped 3p from the shares at a new low of 15p.

Marlin the Neanderthal continued to make headlines following the news of an approach from a mystery bidder. The shares hit 2066p, at one stage, before reacting to 250p, a net loss on the day of 1p.

Henry Ansbacher Holdings,

the merchant banking group, took on its third leading equity partner in eight years yesterday under somewhat altered terms for Pargesa Holdings, Swiss investment firm, and Groupe Bruxelles Lambert, the Belgian financial conglomerate, to buy a stake of up to 29.99 per cent.

Pargesa and Group Bruxelles will underwrite a one-for-three

and will then top up to the target level. Pargesa and Group Bruxelles will also lend £14.5m to Ansbacher through a variable rate convertible unsecured loan stock 1994-2004. In 1976 the US-based Lissauer commodities group invested in Ansbacher, and two years ago Touche Reinstat, the investment group, bought 20 per cent.

Recal Electronics slipped 2p to 227p despite some bullish remarks from broker Earsham

which says the shares now look to be emerging from a below average phase into a period of pronounced strength. The downside risk looks very limited with what should now be very strong support just below current levels, and the shares should be purchased with an upside target of at least 275p.

Leisuretime International

rose 5p to 72p after Kennedy Brooks confirmed yesterday's article in *The Times* that it had acquired just under 7 percent of the shares. A similar amount is also believed to have been picked up by the privately owned Virani Group.

Gold shares continued to lose ground along with the bullion price reflecting the stronger dollar on world markets.

Equity turnover on April 30, was £242,692m (21,559 bargains). The total number of British and Irish shares traded was 141 million. Gilt bargains amounted to 2,742.

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Despite the heady multiple

however of 30 to last night's

closing price of 745p, it is

possibly premature to switch

on to the bear track. The

advertising sector itself is

growing at around 12 per cent

and Saatchi's interim

turnover gain of around 40 per

cent represents an above-average

expansion rate.

Margin clawback is not only

successful, witness the 60 per

cent improvement in the US

Compton buy, post acquisi-

tion, but has further to go.

Saatchi's British margins are

now 2 per cent, compared with

a target 3 per cent, and

profitability in the US can also

improve.

Finally, to suggestions that

the really big US agencies, like

Young and Rubicam are just

too large to overhaul, Saatchi

replies that its motivation and

lively sense of regionalism can

test US lab. On this basis,

diversification plans, perhaps

into building a world wide PR

agency, look far less merciful,

and with massive credit lines,

to back up its cash.

Saatchi could inject its tough financial

systems into a fairly significant

acquisition.

TEMPUS

**After the boom days
Saatchi diversifies**

Some years ago, Saatchi & Saatchi hit on the idea of offering clients worldwide coordinated promotion campaigns, a natural, and even slightly belated response to the spread of the multinational. The idea, a classic "gap in the market" perception, has worked so well that Saatchi & Saatchi now ranks number seven among world advertising agencies, with 70 offices in 40 countries as part of the network sports a Wall Street listing and has nearly £40m lodged in the bank. Back in the late seventies Saatchi was making less than £2m a year pretax.

Market hopes are now for further growth in the second half for a year outturn of about £18m (£1.2m), which gives earnings per share of 37p, including the one-off benefit from realizing profits on the roll-up funds. A prospective rating of 20 is fairly demanding but then so too are the group's US ambitions.

Perhaps the group should now do the whole world a favour by pitching for the Fed account, and cheering up the bonds.

Tarmac

After the unnerving announcement by George Wimpey last week that it is providing £241.7m against losses in overseas construction, Tarmac must be thanking its lucky stars that it learned its lesson about the risks of international contracting so painfully in Nigeria six years ago.

Ever since, it has been winding down its overseas construction side and last year the division accounted for a mere £30m out of group sales of £1.65 billion, allowing Tarmac's carefully integrated spread of aggregate, building products and non-building businesses to show their paces free from troublesome contracts in faraway places.

Pretax profits rose 30 per cent, helped by buoyant results from housebuilding, where the group achieved a big recovery in profits by switching emphasis from second to first-time buyers, and excellent progress in the big quarry products division.

House building is set for another strong year in 1984. Completions are expected to rise from 8,200 to more than 7,000, while acquisitions will contribute several millions in their own right, there are also unquantifiable benefits through integration with existing Tarmac businesses.

Moreover, Tarmac subsidiaries in both South Africa and the US will do well this year while building products in France, which lost more than £1m in 1983, should break even after earlier remedial action.

Profits of more than £105m look possible, with more on the cards in 1985 when the group should begin to benefit significantly from its high level of capital spending in the past two years. Tarmac's acquisition ambitions in the US where it is

CWS profits slip by 2% as turnover increases

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Co-Operative Wholesale Society's 1983 trading profits slipped 2 per cent, on a £2.1 billion turnover that was 8 per cent higher.

And Mr Dennis Landau, the chief executive, warned yesterday that Co-op retail societies were unlikely to see any significant short-term recovery of the market share lost in the last few years.

J. Sainsbury had moved ahead in the packaged grocery market, said Mr Landau, but the Co-op was still Britain's biggest retailer, with a spread of goods and services ranging from most household items to funerals, and providing a third of the nation's milk.

Despite reduced profits of £1.6m, the CWS is increasing by £1.5m to £6m its dividend to retail societies, to which it is

offering a 2 per cent increase.

The return on the menswear assets can be improved by the room for further growth at Hepworth is considerable. The organization will be both slimmer and more profitable. It has shed the burden of debt, which hampered progress in the past and during the first six months there were almost no borrowings.

Trading in recent weeks has been sluggish, but the hot weather has boosted sales and if this is sustained when Hepworth should make £13m pretax in the full year. The share price dipped 15p to 300p and there could be a period of short term consolidation.

However, potential pretax profits of £16.5m in 1984-85 offer room for the shares to rise again over the next two years.

£24,000 pay rise for Laird Group chief

By Jonathan Clare

Mr John Gardner, chief executive of the Laird Group, received a pay increase of almost one-third last year, according to the annual report published yesterday.

The increase is from £74,000 and is not part of a formal profits-related pay scheme. However, the company pointed out that in previous years he has received a much smaller increase – in 1982 his pay went up by only £2,000 to £74,000.

The annual report also shows that he now has options on more than 400,000 Laird shares against 280,000 in 1982. The increase in the share options is directly linked to his salary.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The pound rallied well from early selling pressure yesterday, which forced the rate against the dollar to within a whisker of its lowest traded position of 1.3910, plumbed in early January. At the close sterling had recovered to 1.3980, just five points below Monday's close.

The pound's trade weighted index finished slightly ahead at 79.7 compared with 79.7 overnight, while in terms of other leading currencies, sterling improved slightly, closing at 3.8090 (3.7980), in Denmark terms and making ground against the Swiss franc at 3.1390 (3.1350).

The dollar continued to be supported by high US interest rates.

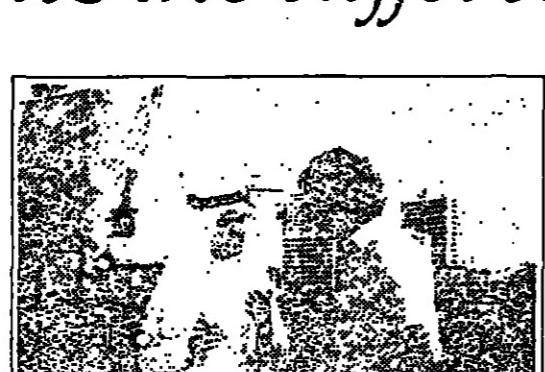
The markets were notable for further firming up of the periods, led by the longer end, because of the release over the troubled pound. There was also concern about interest rates if next Tuesday's money supply figures do not show considerable improvement.

Operations in day-to-day money proved full. The Bank's initial forecast of a £350m shortage was eventually revised to £450m.

But total assistance amounted only to £393-£189m bill purchases at established intervention rates in the morning, a further £1.5m in the afternoon, then £90m.

Some houses paid up to 8.14 per cent during the morning. Rates reached 8.6 per cent before a late fall to 8 per cent.

'That's the difference'



With fast communications, we can make effective cash management a reality. With 18 currency dealing centres covering the world 24 hours a day, we can offer you some remarkably professional and competitive dealing.

And with the rest of our services, developed over 130 years' specialisation in financing international trade, we can offer you a practical and profit-oriented approach to overseas business that will match your

victory
ring

CRICKET

Roberts's debut 80 is all in vain

By Richard Streeton

CHESTERFIELD: Leicestershire (23 pts)-beat Derbyshire (6). by 11 runs

Forlorn stroke play by Bruce Roberts, who made an exhilarating 80 - at number eight on his championship debut, took Derbyshire close to victory in a thrilling finish. After Willey allowed his side a further 35 minutes, hitting Derbyshire's target was 332, or 315 minutes or, more relevantly this year, in a maximum of 100 overs.

For a long time Derbyshire kept on the right course until a repetition of Monday's middle-order slump seemed to have dashed their hopes. Roberts, with crucial support from Finney, Newman and Taylor then took charge. He put enormous fire into a series of orthodox drives and scored freely on both sides of the wicket.

When Roberts was out, Derbyshire still needed 16 and the task was too much for Taylor and Mortenssen. Roberts, fair-haired and bespectacled, is 22 this month and has the bulkiness of an Eddie Barlow. He was born in Zambia to an English mother, brought up in Zimbabwe and for three years has been in Derbyshire's second team.

A new and Parsons were again the main destroyers for Leicestershire, keeping a better line and getting more bounces before they tired than their opposite numbers had managed for Derbyshire.

Barnett soon played on against Agnew but Anderson and Hill settled down to add 106 in 38 overs. Both kept the rising ball down well and played the slow bowlers soundly from the back foot. Hill was the more positive, but it was the first of four wickets to fall in 20 minutes when he drove catch to cover.

Hampshire was caught down the leg side in Parsons's next over and then Agnew had Miller leg before with a ball that kept Johnson bowler held in the slips. By ten Anderson, too, had gone, splendidly beaten by Willey; in the gully. Anderson gave one chance when he was on three but otherwise he looked safe through 59 overs.

Finney and Roberts batttered with vigour and confidence as they added 66 in 16 overs to start the late fight back. Finney then swatted against a long hop with a flat bat and was caught at cover. Derbyshire had just the final 20 overs began.

First, Parsons, then Agnew, were severely punished by Roberts. Willey was unable to contain him at the other end and Cook returned and had Newman caught at silly point. Roberts was out when he missed an intended pull and his 80 included 15 fours.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 297 (P Willey 70, J Gower 70, G Miller 4 for 32); Second Innings 132 (J C Barnes, B S Parsons, M D Roberts & B Mortenssen 130, P Willey 5 for 60); Total 429; Score 132-5; D R Miller not out; 1 M D Roberts not out; 1 M Newman not out; Extras 6, 10, 2, 10, 1) 9

Total 4 wkt dec 249

To J Gower, J S Parsons, N G B Cook, J P Agnew and L B Taylor did not bat; FALL OF WICKETS: 1-63, 2-124, 3-205, 4-217.

BOWLING: Mainman 17-0, 76-0; Mortenssen 13-2-40-2; Finney 6-1-26-0; Miller 28-14-42-2; Roberts 15-3-42-0; Fowler 5-1-13-0.

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 214 (K J Barnett 114); Second Innings 14

J C Barnes, B S Parsons, M D Roberts & B Mortenssen 130, P Willey 5 for 60); Total 354; Score 132-5; D R Miller not out; 1 M D Roberts not out; 1 M Newman not out; Extras 6, 10, 2, 10, 1) 9

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New British professionals face difficult challenge

By Mitchell Platts

The presence of Jane Connachan and Kiriina Douglas has provided additional interest in the Ford Ladies Classic which starts at Woburn Golf and Country Club today.

Last month, Miss Connachan, the former British amateur stroke-play champion, was understandably bemused at being named only second reserve for the Curtis Cup team and, almost immediately, she decided to leave the amateur ranks. Within 24 hours of her making that decision she was joined in the professional world by Miss Douglas, who won the British match-play championship in 1982.

The defection of this pair suited the Women's Professional Golf Association (WPGA). The 1984 tour now has total prize-money of £500,000 and what the WPGA required this summer was an injection of new British blood. In Miss Connachan and Miss Douglas, they have got that.

There are also plenty of new faces from the Continent, including Federico Dassu, who is the sister of the Italian professional, Baldorino. Also in the field are Elizabeth Glass, of Zimbabwe, who was the Rookie of the Year in 1983; Rae Hart, the 1982 South African amateur champion, and Barbara Helbig, of West Germany.

Miss Helbig, who has been a professional for eight years, took this title 12 months ago. By winning a US mini-tour event in Florida last month, she emphasized that she will make a strong defence.

The American challenge has never been stronger. Lori Castillo, a member of the 1980 Curtis Cup team, is one of the six women from her country in the Baume and Mercier team. The others are Kim Bauer, Barri



Perfect style: Bet Boozer in practice yesterday

Brandwynne, Meredith Marshall, Beth Boozer and Nancy Hoins. All of them feel comfortable under the blue skies during yesterday's pro-am, but they are likely to find things increasingly difficult if weather forecasts are accurate and the rain returns.

The arrival of Miss Connachan and Miss Douglas, who will not be inconvenienced by a change in the conditions, will obviously increase the strength of the British contingent. However, they will surely be

feeling their way this week.

More likely to be in contention is Mickey Walker, who is striking the ball with tremendous confidence, and Cathy Panton, who has recently returned from the LPGA tour in the United States. Muriel Thomson, who returned earlier from America after a succession of disappointing results, will be hoping for better things as she sets out to retain the No 1 position in the order of merit which she occupied last year.

The American classics have established a tradition of inviting a British player to each of their games and there is some possibility for the game with Harlequins that they would invite a player from each of the four home countries.

Representatives from all the clubs that Lord Wakefield played for - Cambridge University, Barnsley, North, Leicester, Middlesex, Notts, Lancashire and the Barbarians - will be invited to the game which will be played the day before the Harlequins' Tavener semi-final at the Stoop Memorial ground, when the French Barbarians will also enter a team.

Brixham's bonus

Brixham have won the Devon Merit Table, despite the ban imposed on their first team players by Devon Rugby Union in March. Roger Porter, the Devon secretary, described the situation as 'ironical.'

BASKETBALL

English player of season left out by Britain

By Nicholas Harling

Dan Lloyd, the popular Crystal Palace captain, who was voted English player of the season, has been excluded from Britain's preparations for the pre-Olympic qualifying tournament in Grenoble later this month.

Lloyd is a surprising omission from the 13-man squad, who followed Saturday's 91-88 victory over France with a 95-90 win over the same team at Portsmouth. Countries lost 12 players for the Olympics and Lloyd was staggered to be told by the coach, Tom Schaeffer, that he was the unlucky one to be ruled out. 'So it's the least,' he said. 'I suppose he's got a lot of friends and felt that one of us had to go. He's the head coach and he's going with the team he feels he can win with. I guess everyone had a fair shot at it but I feel disgruntled and humiliated.'

Lloyd will remain on standby should any of the other players get injured against All-Stars at Leicester on Saturday and Birmingham on Sunday.

GERALD BRITAIN P Simpson (C, Fife), K Williams (C, Northumbria), S Howell (Cardiff), J Johnson (Edinburgh), M Sargent (Birmingham), R Arnold (Edinburgh), P Hall (C, Plymouth), A Balogun (Bradford), P Way (Edinburgh), P Mullings (Sunderland); M Spad (C, Palace).

IN BRIEF

Olympic choice in Junior Wightman Cup

By Amanda Brown and Rita Eirin

who were recently chosen by the International Tennis Federation to represent Great Britain in the tennis demonstration event at the Olympic Games in August, are included in a squad of five players who have been invited to form the junior Wightman Cup squad, sponsored by Nabisco.

The two 18-year-olds are joined by Sara Gomer, aged 19, Shelley Walpole, 18, and Julie Salmon, 18. These players will also form the basis of the Maureen Connolly Cup team to play against America in the Autumn.

YACHTING: Twenty-three yacht clubs, including one from landlocked Switzerland, have taken up the challenge for the America's Cup, which will take place in Australia in 1987, organized said yesterday. The highest number of challengers involved previously was last year's seven.

SWIMMING: Caroline Holmyard and Carolyn Wilson, winner of three gold medals in the European championships, have been named as Britain's synchronised swimming duet for the Olympic Games. Amanda Dodd is the travelling reserve.

JUDO

Adams the favourite

Liege (Reuter) - The European Championships, to be held over four days, starts here tomorrow and they promise to provide an epic contest between Neil Adams the reigning light-middleweight title holder and Shota Khabarelli, the Soviet Union's gold medal winner.

Adams, who also won the stylist award at last year's championships, has yet to find his best form this year but is still expected to win.

Leading performers are using this competition as preparation for the

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Central League: First division: Stockport v Nottingham Forest, Newcastle v Stoke (2.0). Second division: Rotherham v Chesterfield (7.0), Walsall v Bromwich v Sheffield United (non-league). Football combination: Leicester v Reading (2.15), Millwall v Norwich City (2.0). Southampton v Chelsea (1.1). Non-league: Southern League: Presidents' Cup, Final, second leg: Wokington (1.1) v Marlow (1.1). **ATHLETICS:** Southern Counties AAA v RAF v Borough Road College (at Crystal Palace NSCL) v London, open and inter-collegiate championships (at West London Squash); ULAC inter-collegiate championships (Motspur Park); Regent's University match (Iffey Road, Oxford).

NETTLETON LEAGUE: First division: Fleetwood v Merseyside, Torquay v Chester. Associate Members Cup: Semi-final, Northern section: Hull v Sheffield United. Scottish premier division: Hearts v Aberdeen. Rangers v Dundee United. Alliance Premier League: Bangor City v Barnet. Kidderminster v Northwich Victoria. Yeovil v Kettering.

Verdict awarded to His Honour in Ascot stamina test

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With £20,000 added to the sweepstakes the Mono Sagar Stakes is the most valuable race at Ascot today. Having won the Queen's Vase and the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Royal Ascot during the last three years, besides finishing fourth in the Gold Cup there, Ore arguably has the best credentials for this group three race for stayers run over two miles.

However, Willie Musson, the trainer, will not give up Omar Zawawi's six-year-old if he considers that the ground is too hard, and as form going was forecast yesterday there must be a doubt about Ore's taking part unless the heavens have opened during the night. Musson withdrew Ore from a race at Pontefract last week for the same reason.

In the circumstances it seems wiser to plump for His Honour, who ran well to finish fourth behind Prince of Peace in his first race of the season at Newmarket, particularly as he was lumbered with a huge weight. On that occasion he finished some way in front of Gildoran, one of his principal opponents this afternoon. Furthermore His Honour relishes fast ground.

What could turn out to be the most momentous week in Charlie Nelson's life will begin well if Wiki Wiki Wheels manages to win the Autobar Victoria Cup. And he may well do so, bearing in mind how he won his last two races over several furlongs at Newmarket last year. However the handicapper ought to have taken his measure and in this instance I just prefer Milk Heart, whose trainer, Geoff Lewis, has sent out four winners from his Epsom stable in the last week.

The way Milk Heart finished to gain second place in last year's Wokingham Stakes at Royal Ascot suggested that he is crying out for today's slightly longer distance. More recently a run behind Sayf El Arab at Kempton Park should have put the finishing touches to his preparation for today's test.

Blinded first time

CATTERICK 2.15 Navaro Secondo: 2.45 Quirante

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Ever Ready Derby Stakes, Epsom; Open, Friday 2.20; Gold Seal Oaks Stakes, Sandown; Alice Lyons, Second leg, Newmarket (Sat, April 23) All engagements (read: withdrawn).

TOMORROW'S ADVANCE GOING: Newmarket good to firm. Hereford: Hard

GOING: Firm. Draw: No advantage. Total double: 3.5, 4.10. Treble: 2.30, 3.40, 4.40.

ASCOT

[Television: BBC 2] 2.0: (BBC 1) 2.30, 3.5, 3.40]

GOING: Firm

Draw: No advantage

Total double: 3.5, 4.10. Treble: 2.30, 3.40, 4.40.

ASCOT

[Television: BBC 1] 2.15 Topeka Bots, 4 Longshot, 5 Caramba, 6 Hot Rodder, 7 Longshot and 8 Wiki Wiki Wheels.

GOING: Firm. Draw: No advantage. Total double: 3.5, 4.10. Treble: 2.30, 3.40, 4.40.

2.0 AUTOBAR STAKES (3-y-o filies: 26,702; 1m 20) (10 runners)

101 1 BROCADE (G Leigh) G Harwood 6-1
102 2 REST LAD (Elsie Holdings) M Jarvis 6-11
103 3 EXUBERANT (M Phillips) McDonald 6-11
104 4 HOT RODDER (F Compton) M Chapman 6-11
105 5 GOLDEN FLAME (V Adriano) R Simpson 6-11
106 6 HOT RODDER (J Adams) P Cook 6-11
107 7 PARADISE ISLAND (G Threshwell) C Britain 6-11
108 8 RED GAY (D McInerney) S Hester 6-11
109 9 SUNSET (G Parry) G Hester 6-11
110 10 TRAVEL LEGEND (R Patrick) P Wixson 6-11
111 11 0-0 TRAVEL LEGEND (R Patrick) P Wixson 6-11
112 12 0-0 TRAVEL LEGEND (R Patrick) P Wixson 6-11
113 13 0-0 TRAVEL LEGEND (R Patrick) P Wixson 6-11
114 14 0-0 TRAVEL LEGEND (R Patrick) P Wixson 6-11
115 15 0-0 TRAVEL LEGEND (R Patrick) P Wixson 6-11

1983 Abandoned - course waterlogged.

FORM: BROCADE (6-11) had No Girl (6-11) 5th in 8th in 6th comfortable Newbury winner (7.1, 22,928, good, Apr 14). NET CORD (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Ascot group race (6.1, 23,048, good, to firm, Sep 22). RED GAY (6-11) 5th in REED-EL-REEM (6-11) in Salbury (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Sep 22). HOT RODDER (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Pabbots (7.1) in Newmarket (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). TRAVEL LEGEND (6-11) 4th in 6th in 8th in Prince of Wales (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). Selection: NET CORD.

2.0 MONGOLIAN STAKES (Group III: £26,858; 1m 20) (12)

402 1 CARROTS (P) (Lay) Narigori G Harwood 9-0
403 2 MILLBOW (S March) G Harwood 5-0
404 3 14-1 CUP, FRIDAY (H Holmes A Court) Balding 8-11
405 4 BRIGADE JACQUELINE (A Richard) C Britain 6-9
406 5 0-0 HOT RODDER (J Adams) P Cook 6-11
407 6 0-0 GOLDEN FLAME (V Adriano) R Simpson 6-11
408 7 0-0 HOT RODDER (P Cook) J Dunlop 8-9
409 8 0-0 LONGSHOT (K John) R Johnson Houghton 8-8
410 9 0-0 HOT RODDER (P Cook) J Dunlop 8-9
411 10 0-0 OTRIEBOR (Lady Brookover) C Britain 6-9
412 11 0-0 SARAH MOUNTAINS (F Gold Racing) P Gold 6-11
413 12 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
414 13 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
415 14 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
416 15 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11

3 Millions: 7-2 Towcan Bots, 4 Longshot, 5 Caramba, 6 Hot Rodder, 7 Longshot and 8 Wiki Wiki Wheels.

FRIDAY, 21st. 0-0.

FORM: CARROTS (6-11) 7th in Prince of Wales (7.1, 22,928, good, Apr 14). MILLBOW (6-11) 2nd in Knavesmire (6-11), 1m 21.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17. HOT RODDER (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Ascot (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). KIRMAN (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Newbury (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). LONGSHOT (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Newbury (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). TOWCAN BOTTA (6-11) 1st in 2nd in 8th in Newmarket (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). Selection: TOWCAN BOTTA.

2.0 WHITE ROSE STAKES (26,858; 1m 20) (12)

402 1 CARROTS (P) (Lay) Narigori G Harwood 9-0
403 2 MILLBOW (S March) G Harwood 5-0
404 3 14-1 CUP, FRIDAY (H Holmes A Court) Balding 8-11
405 4 BRIGADE JACQUELINE (A Richard) C Britain 6-9
406 5 0-0 HOT RODDER (J Adams) P Cook 6-11
407 6 0-0 GOLDEN FLAME (V Adriano) R Simpson 6-11
408 7 0-0 HOT RODDER (P Cook) J Dunlop 8-9
409 8 0-0 LONGSHOT (K John) R Johnson Houghton 8-8
410 9 0-0 HOT RODDER (P Cook) J Dunlop 8-9
411 10 0-0 OTRIEBOR (Lady Brookover) C Britain 6-9
412 11 0-0 SARAH MOUNTAINS (F Gold Racing) P Gold 6-11
413 12 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
414 13 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
415 14 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
416 15 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11

3 Millions: 7-2 Towcan Bots, 4 Longshot, 5 Caramba, 6 Hot Rodder, 7 Longshot and 8 Wiki Wiki Wheels.

FRIDAY, 21st. 0-0.

FORM: CARROTS (6-11) 7th in Prince of Wales (7.1, 22,928, good, Apr 14). MILLBOW (6-11) 2nd in Knavesmire (6-11), 1m 21.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17. HOT RODDER (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Ascot (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). KIRMAN (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Newbury (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). LONGSHOT (6-11) 5th in 6th in 8th in Newbury (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). TOWCAN BOTTA (6-11) 1st in 2nd in 8th in Newmarket (7.1, 22,928, good, to firm, Apr 17). Selection: TOWCAN BOTTA.

2.0 MONGOLIAN STAKES (Group III: £26,858; 1m 20) (12)

402 1 CARROTS (P) (Lay) Narigori G Harwood 9-0
403 2 MILLBOW (S March) G Harwood 5-0
404 3 14-1 CUP, FRIDAY (H Holmes A Court) Balding 8-11
405 4 BRIGADE JACQUELINE (A Richard) C Britain 6-9
406 5 0-0 HOT RODDER (J Adams) P Cook 6-11
407 6 0-0 GOLDEN FLAME (V Adriano) R Simpson 6-11
408 7 0-0 LONGSHOT (K John) R Johnson Houghton 8-8
409 8 0-0 HOT RODDER (P Cook) J Dunlop 8-9
410 9 0-0 OTRIEBOR (Lady Brookover) C Britain 6-9
411 10 0-0 SARAH MOUNTAINS (F Gold Racing) P Gold 6-11
412 11 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
413 12 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
414 13 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
415 14 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11
416 15 0-0 TOWCAN BOTTA (Malcolm Al Moustafa) M Stouts 6-11

3 Millions: 7-2 Towcan Bots, 4 Longshot, 5 Caramba, 6 Hot Rodder, 7 Longshot and 8 Wiki Wiki Wheels.

FRIDAY, 21st. 0-0.</

La crème de la crème

20 years of friendly service

PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS?
International division of Property Development Company will end your search for French ability to assist the Company's European offices, handling all travel arrangements, personal secretaries, etc. We offer you the opportunity to join us at all levels to assist our good secretarial staffs needed. Call Glyn Kester on 734 6211.

FINANCIAL WHIZZ £8,000
The sky is the limit where your opportunities are concerned in this highly confidential position. You will assist the Consultants who would like to delegate some of their work to you. There is no need for you to have any previous experience, just a desire to develop your skills and a desire to be part of a team to succeed. Good secretarial skills essential. Call Glyn Kester on 734 6211.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS £8,000+
International division of an American management consulting firm based in New York, has excellent opportunities for English speaking secretaries. Experience not essential. Apply to Glyn Kester on 734 6211.

EXTERIOR DESIGN £8,000
As PA to the Managing Partner of this young firm of architects you will be responsible for all external liaison. You will be required to travel extensively throughout the UK and overseas, deal with clients, suppliers, contractors, etc. Good secretarial experience essential. If you have good organisational skills and a mature outlook, ring Diane Gross for an early introduction on 22 5872.

SHOW PERSON
Delegates exhibitions throughout UK and worldwide. In this exciting atmosphere of travel and fun you will be required to assist the young executives in setting up the shows, and using your own initiative to handle any situations that may arise. You must be able to work towards your own targets. If you have good secretarial skills and a mature outlook, ring Diane Gross for an early introduction on 22 5872.

DRAKE PERSONNEL
Holborn: 05 High Holborn, WC1. 01-831 0566
Notting Hill: 10 Pembridge Road, W11. 01-221 5072

A Drake International Company (Consultants)

PA/SECRETARY TO DEPUTY TREASURER

£6,712 - £8,445 (inc London Weighting)

This is an ideal post for a person not wishing to be "chained" to the typewriter. The job is varied with administrative responsibilities and requires someone with initiative and motivation since the "boss" is frequently out of the office. There is also scope for personal development since the post involves deputising for certain of the Office Manager duties. The Treasurer's Department consists of approximately 140 staff.

Applicants should possess excellent shorthand and a typewriting skills and have experience of working at a senior level. Attention to detail is another pre-requisite - although there is not a lot of figure work, accuracy is important. Experience of an electronic office would be an advantage although training will be given.

Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from the District Personnel Department, The Middlesex Hospital, Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AA, Tel 01-636 3513 (24 hour service). Please quote reference number A95.

Closing date: 16th May, 1984

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Secretary/PA to Head of Finance

This is an interesting and varied job for an experienced PA/Secretary who has good word processing skills.

Applicants should have the ability to plan and control work, to respond to new situations in a flexible manner and be able to work under pressure occasionally. As further progress will be made towards computer based reports and office systems a broad interest in these areas would be helpful.

Starting salary around £7,500 p.a. Benefits include 28 days annual holiday, LV's, pension and free life assurance schemes, interest-free season ticket loan. Please apply in writing to the Personnel Manager, Consumers' Association, 14 Buckingham Street, London WC2.

Which?

A leading Canadian company requiring a luxury product internationally has the following vacancies in their West End offices:

SECRETARY TO VICE-PRESIDENT

First-class typing/audio skills necessary. Shorthand an advantage.

BILINGUAL SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR

Excellent knowledge of the French and English language essential for this position, and must be fluent after 6 months. Typing/audio skills and shorthand in both English and French.

Candidates for the above positions should be of the highest calibre, have word-processing and other experience and must be able to work well with figures.

Applicants should be well grounded with excellent voice and the ability to work well under pressure.

Salary c.£8,000 and benefits include LV's, pension scheme and 20 days annual holiday.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:

Tom Parker, RHB Personnel Services
71 Duke St, Marylebone, London W1
Telephone 01-629 9322

TEXTILE COMPANY DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY TO £8,400

An important position within a small H.Q. of Int'l Textile Co. Young Lawyer and no relations side of large Int'l Co whose Secretary has just left after 6 years seeks SH secretary to share his varied and interesting duties.

Please call Recruitment Consultants

STOCKTON ASSOCIATES 01-734 8466

INTERESTED IN CURRENT AFFAIRS? TO £10,000

Our client a privately funded organisation involved in economic research seeks a PA/Secretary to a Director. He travels extensively throughout the Far East and Europe and needs an articulate well groomed PA to ensure his office runs smoothly. They also have a publishing division and you will liaise closely with their editorial department 100/50 skills needed.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
18 Grosvenor Street, London W1 Telephone 01-499 8070

EXPERIENCED TEMPORARIES?

If you have any of the following skills:

- ★ Shorthand
- ★ Audio/Legal Audio
- Copy Typing

We have a vast number of well paid temporary assignments starting each day of the week. We also give paid holidays, free travel, training and a highly professional service to professional temporaries.

Call Christine Le Corre today:

01-242 1832

KELLY GIRL

240 High Holborn, WC1

INDUSTRIALIST PA/SECRETARY

£6,250
Chief Executive of major industrial property group is seeking to appoint a PA/Secretary. The successful candidate must be a lady ideally aged in her mid-twenties with 5 years experience. A high level of ability will be essential for this important post.

First-class references together with CV to:

Box 2518 H The Times

SALES-STATESIDE

£7,800

International division of an American management consulting firm based in New York, has excellent opportunities for English speaking secretaries. Experience not essential. Apply to Glyn Kester on 734 6211.

WORLD OF ARCHITECTURE

£7,000

Based in your private office you will assist the Managing Director in all aspects of his business. Typical projects will involve correspondence, telephone negotiations, dealing with clients, preparing reports, helping with clients on his behalf, dealing with financial accounts, etc. Good secretarial experience essential. You can use your initiative. Good secretarial experience needed. Call Jackie Mills on 623 1222.

MARKETING PA

£7,200

Assist the Marketing Executive within the International division of an International consulting firm based in New York. Duties will be responsible for handling correspondence, telephone negotiations, arranging travel, dealing with clients, etc. Good secretarial experience essential. You will be required to use a word processor. Please call 221 5872.

HIGH RISE

£7,000

Assist the Managing Director of an American management consulting firm based in New York. Duties will involve handling correspondence, telephone negotiations, arranging travel, dealing with clients, etc. Good secretarial experience essential. You will be required to use a word processor. Please call 221 5872.

SECRETARIAT IN COMPUTERS

£7,000

Assist the Managing Director of an International consulting firm based in New York. Duties will involve handling correspondence, telephone negotiations, arranging travel, dealing with clients, etc. Good secretarial experience essential. You will be required to use a word processor. Please call 221 5872.

STEP UP OR P.R.

£7,000

Assist the Managing Director of an American management consulting firm based in New York. Duties will involve handling correspondence, telephone negotiations, arranging travel, dealing with clients, etc. Good secretarial experience essential. You will be required to use a word processor. Please call 221 5872.

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Your interests at heart

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE £8000
Superb opportunity for the Senior secretary with pose, excellent skills and educational background, well able to take on a highly challenging role in Public Relations.

ADDING TO YOUR SKILLS
In association with THE CITY OF LONDON POLYTECHNIC, marvellous short courses are available in office skills & technology with the aim to assist a 'beginner' or needing a 'refresher' - or upgrading your professionalism. Full details of both day & evening courses are available from Kathryn Morgan on 457 9030.

19-23 Oxford St, W1. Tel: 01-437 9030
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Personal Secretaries

Starting salary £6,135 - £6,493 in scale up to £7,662 p.a. (under review). The proficiency allowance of up to £1,374 p.a.

The Council requires Personal Secretaries for two senior members of staff, operating in the fields of Personnel and Food Research respectively.

The posts are challenging, demanding and involve a wide range of secretarial duties. Applicants should have an enquiring mind, a keen sense of responsibility and the ability to work on their own initiative.

Minimum qualifications 3 'O' levels (grade A to C) or equivalent, including English Language. Technical skills of 30 wpm typing, 100 wpm shorthand and/or proficiency in audio transcription.

Friendly working atmosphere; flexible working hours; non-contributory pension scheme; season ticket loans.

Further particulars and application forms available from Miss Mary Gard, Agricultural and Food Research Council, 160 Great Portland Street, London WIN 6DT. Tel: 01-580 6655 ext. 262. Closing date: 18 May 1984.

Deutsche, Industrielle und andere mit Sitz in einer Universität (Produktions- oder Anlagenforschung) sucht hier seine Übersetzungshilfe ehe

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mit sehr guten Deutschkenntnissen sowie Kenntnissen in einer weiteren Fremdsprache (Spanisch oder Französisch). Gute Fähigkeiten im Maschinenschriften erwünscht.

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Gehalt nach Leistung bis etwa DM. 32.000 p.j.

Bitte nehmen Sie Schriftliche Kontakt mit unserer Vertretung fuer Grossbritannien unter folgender Anschrift auf:

Gg. Neidl GmbH,
Strasse 10, London, EC2A 2LP,
London, W1R 9FA

A busy Securities Trading Co. is looking for 3 people to join them. The first will work for the Managing Director, who requires ex-

ASSISTANT

To assist Specialist Project Manager Micro-Computer Word Processor and also to assist his Director, Vice Chairman, Secretary or Mathematics database. Hours 8-4, although shift on shift to start even earlier preferred.

The Second will be an:

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

For the Company Secretary and The Computer Manager. Duties will include assisting with the General Administration of the Office, Work Processing and Database Management. Computer literacy and additional package will be offered to the successful candidate.

Please apply in writing giving fullest details to: Mrs E. F. Carter, Ross & Partners (Securities) Ltd, 1 Finsbury Sq, EC2A 1AD.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

For Chairman, and Chief Executive of major City re-insurance group and Lloyds Brokers.

Applicant must have previous experience at this level, good educational background up to at least 'A' level, excellent secretarial skills (65/20 w.p.m.), ability to organise and work under pressure, a smart appearance and last but certainly not least a sense of humour. Preferred age 26 to 30. Salary £10,000, I.V.S., B.U.P.A., pension scheme and other benefits.

Write with full details to Box 0548L, The Times.

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

£10,000 plus 10% comm. for TV commercial production. £10,000 plus 10% comm. PA.

Leading ad agency needs a new class PA with creative eye to assist creative development. £25,000.

BBC - ADVERTISING Standard production office for creative production and agency. £16,000.

Marketing and advertising specialist - in the Communications and Entertainment Industries since 1969.

Pathfinders PERSONNEL SERVICES LTD, 21 Beauchamp Place SW1, 629 3132.

ADVERTISING

c £9,500
The Dynamic Chief Executive of a leading agency needs a top level Secretary. This is a busy and interesting job requiring someone with some local advertising experience. Super appearance and excellent skills (100/65) necessary. Super offices and benefits. Age 28 to 34.

Ring 434 4512
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Box 1287L The Times

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Required for Chairman to divide time between London and Sutton. Salary: £10,250-12,500 and must be able to work with enthusiasm. Accommodation available if required for time spent in the country. A car/travelling expenses will be provided. Salary negotiable to £10,000 p.a.

Elizabeth Hunt RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS 18 Grosvenor Street London W1 Telephone 01-499 8070

Box 1287L The Times

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GRAND HOTEL £7,000
A major 5 star hotel seeks a Guest Liaison Secretary. Your duties will be to handle guest relations and to be the liaison with commercial liaison with guests to make their stay as comfortable as possible. You should be well presented with experience preferably of a continental hotel. Excellent benefits include a free lunch, 65 wpm typing ability needed.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM 23 & 24 May (continued)

Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, and dated.

TIMES

ZOO Grey's Inn Road
London WC1X 8AL. A telephone number or address may be telephoned on 01-587 3311.

Subscribers only tel 01-587 3311.

Advertisers' Direct Lines 01-278 2222.

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and Saturday between 9.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Publication the following day.

PRINTING & PUBLISHING MARRIAGES

WEDDINGS, 01-587 3311.

OBITUARIES, 01-587 3311.

1224 ext 7714.

Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

Other classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone between 9.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and Saturday between 9.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Publication the following day.

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WEDDINGS, 01-587 3311.

OBITUARIES, 01-587 3311.

1224 ext 7714.

DEATHS

MACK-WILSON - On 22nd April 1984 at his home, 102a St. John's Road, Barking, Essex and formerly of The Orchards, Chelmsford. Father of Jane and John who will be sadly missed. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 26th April 1984 at 1.30 p.m. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Family flowers only. Tel 01-587 3311.

MONTAGNE - On April 28th, 1984. M. Th. V. Gauthier, husband of Ernestine, father of Walter, Marlene and Michael. Funeral service, Newmarket. No flowers, please but donations if desired to the Royal British Legion, Newmarket. Tel 01-587 3311.

MURPHY - On April 28th, 1984. Mrs. S. Murphy, wife of Edward Murphy, father of Terence, Martin and Michael. Funeral service, Newmarket. No flowers, please but donations if desired to the Royal British Legion, Newmarket. Tel 01-587 3311.

PEACOCK - Wilfred Redhead, late of Nairn, Nairnshire. On 23rd April 1984 at his home, 102a St. John's Road, Barking, Essex. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 26th April 1984 at 1.30 p.m. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Tel 01-587 3311.

PROCTOR - The death is announced of Mr. Alan Proctor, husband of Margaret and mother of Edward, Julian and Michael. Funeral service will take place at the Danish Church, Chelmsford, on 3rd. At 3pm, followed by a service at the Danish Church, Chelmsford, on 4th April at 1.30pm. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Tel 01-587 3311.

RADFORD - Mrs. E. Radford, late of Highgate, Essex, died on 28th April 1984. Her son, Michael, 11 years old, daughter, Elizabeth, 10, and her husband, Alan, 52, all of Highgate. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 2nd May at 1.30pm. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Tel 01-587 3311.

RUTTER, SYDNEY - On Sunday, 27th April 1984, Sydney Rutter, a widow, deeply mourned by his wife, Dorothy, and a daughter, his daughter-in-law, Claudine and grand-daughter, Sophie.

SCHROEDER - Johnnie, late Louis Hartnett, C.B.E., on Saturday April 28th, 1984. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 1st May at 1.30pm. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Tel 01-587 3311.

SHRIKE, DOLLY MARY - Peacefully and with great love, on April 28th, 1984, Mrs. Dolly Mary Shrike, mother of Rupert, Victoria, Benjamin and Michael. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 1st May at 1.30pm. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Tel 01-587 3311.

HILL - On April 29th, 1984, at St. Mary's Church, Chelmsford, Essex, David Hill, 12, son of Max and Helen Hill, 42, of Chelmsford. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 1st May at 1.30pm. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Tel 01-587 3311.

WATSON - On April 30th at Torbay Hospital, Paignton, Devon, a daughter Louise Emily.

ZIEKHERRMANN - On April 28th to Patti and Jerry, a daughter Louise.

BIRTHS

ASQUITH - On 27th April 1984 at Claremont, London SW1. Baby, a girl, Sophie.

BASE - On April 27th, 1984, at Rosemary, 10, and Howard, a daughter, Helen Caroline.

CHESTER - On April 26th to David and Julia, sons of John and Linda Chester.

CROWN - On 30th April 1984 at David and Sue, sons of Kim and David at St. Edmund's, Surbiton.

DUNDAS - On April 27th in Sydenham, London SE21. Baby, a girl, Elizabeth.

RUTTER - On April 27th in Sydenham, London SE21. Baby, a girl, Elizabeth.

SHRIKE - On April 27th, 1984, at St. John's Church, Chelmsford, Essex, Sophie, a daughter, of Michael and Helen Shrike, mother of Rupert, Victoria, Benjamin and Michael. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 1st May at 1.30pm. Interment, Chelmsford Cemetery. Tel 01-587 3311.

MEFFERNAN - On April 30th, 1984, at St. John's Church, Chelmsford, Essex, a son, Andrew, a daughter, Sophie, a son, David and a daughter, Sophie.

WILSON - On April 1st, 1984, at Chelmsford Hospital, Essex, a son, Thomas.

PARISH - On April 25th, 1984, to Joyce and Stephen, a son, Nicholas.

WATSON - On April 30th at Torbay Hospital, Paignton, Devon, a daughter Louise Emily.

BIRTHDAYS

HELEN ROSE is 18 today. Happy Birthday Helen - Love Pat, Ray, Les and Lee.

MARRIAGES

BEDALL - RAMSOME, On April 28th at St. Stephens Church, Chelmsford, Essex, Mr. Ferdinand Schneidet, The honeymoon being spent in France.

KOSKINAS - NORTHCROFT, On April 28th, 1984, at St. John's Church, Chelmsford, Essex, Kostas, second son of Antonios and Maria Koskinas, and Anna Northcroft, eldest daughter of David and Shirley Northcroft of Chelmsford, Essex.

PERGVAL - On the late of the late Percival, son of the late Mr and Mrs David Pergval and late Ethel, daughter of Mr and Stewart Neal.

DEATHS

A. P. SIMON - On Sunday, 29th April. David and Elizabeth, beloved parents of private.

ADMY ALAA - On April 22nd, 1984, at St. John's Church, Chelmsford, Essex, Mr. and Mrs. Alaa. We will never forget, Nelson and Ethel.

BANDO - On April 27th, peacefully in a Florence Hospital, Gabicce, Italy, aged 79. Beloved wife of Antonio Bando, Malayan Civil Service retired, son, and much loved grand-mother. Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Chelmsford, Essex, Saturday, April 6th at 11 am on May 22nd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REJUVENATION

For over 40 years we have cared in our own right for the elderly in need - with shelter, food and warmth. We have practical and dignified purpose to growing old. Please call us for advice on putting new life into old.

Donations please to

METHODIST HOSPITAL FOR THE AGED

11 Turret Street, London SW1P 5PD

COVINS

Parish Corrie, late of 151 London Road, South, Lowestoft, Suffolk, died in Lowestoft on 12th April 1984. Funeral service, St. John's Church, Lowestoft, on 15th April.

FRANKLIN - FLORENCE ALICE FRANKLIN, widow of the Revd. Dr. S. Franklin, died at Westgate, Canterbury, Kent, on 28th April 1984. Funeral service at St. John's Church, Canterbury, on 1st May at 1.30pm. Interment, St. John's Church, Canterbury.

JOYCE - ROBERT PRATHER, a memorial service will be held at St. John's Church, Chelmsford, on 1st May at 1.30pm.

ABTA ATOL 1458

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ABTA DATA ATOL 1568

MAURITIUS

01-342 4613/4

TRAVEL

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

8.00 *Ceefax AM*. News, sport, weather, travel notes on teletext.

8.30 *Broadcast Time*. Frank Bough and Sefton Scott usher in the news at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 8.00; sport at 8.35, 7.35; *pop video at 7.35*; *Magic Moments* with Joyce Blair at 8.15; *Eve Pollard's showbiz gossip* at 8.35.

TV-am

6.25 *Good Morning Britain*: Nick Owen and John Stapleton link news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 8.00; sport at 8.35, 7.35; *pop video at 7.35*; *Magic Moments* with Joyce Blair at 8.15; *Eve Pollard's showbiz gossip* at 8.35.

ITV/LONDON

8.25 *Thames News Headlines*. **9.30** *For Schools*: *Zulu Dawn*, 8.47 *Homes and Families*, 10.04 *Roman Invaders* (r) 10.21 *Nuclear Issues* (r) 10.50 *The Reproductive System*, 11.10 *Nature in Spring and Summer* (r) 11.22 *Basic Maths*, 11.40 *History Around You*.

11.55 *Watito-Watito*, 12.00 *Abram's Music: The Trumpet*.

12.00 *Sounds Like a Story*: *The Lion and the Mouse*, 12.30 *The Sullivans*.

1.00 *Naughty but nice* (r) Michael Smith's *recipes*, not film critic Tom Hutchinson's assessment of David Niven's *Holywood Report* and news headlines (*London only*; elsewhere: *Regional news*).

1.00 *Pebble Mill at One*. Naughty but nice refers to Michael Smith's *recipes*, not film critic Tom Hutchinson's assessment of David Niven's *Holywood Report* and news headlines (*London only*; elsewhere: *Regional news*).

1.45 *Gran*. Story narrated by Patrick Hayes (r) 1.50 *Stop-Go! Also for today*, 2.00 *Droopy*, MGM cartoon.

2.15 *Racing from Aspects* covers the 2.30, 3.05 and 3.40 races, 3.55 *Play School*. With Fred Harris. **4.20** *The Paris of Penelope*. **5.30** *Topper* (r). **4.40** *Take Two*. **Junior Points of View** returns with a new presenter in *Josephine Buchan* (her grandfather John wrote *The 39 Steps*, *Swallows and Amazons*). *Forever is among the programmes discussed by critical youngsters*.

5.05 *Newround*. **With Paul McDowell**. **5.10** *Break Point*. **Serial about to be tennis stars** (r).

5.40 *50 Minutes* begins with the news; then weather at 5.54, regional magazines at 5.55, closing headlines at 5.58.

6.40 *The Best of Tonville and Dean*. Career highlights of Britain's ice queen and king culled from their victorious passages through four world championships.

Includes the Mack and Mabel, Barnum and Bailey routines.

7.30 *Film: Rio Lobo* (1970). Civil War western has the parting shot from a gunfight-off-the-set.

8.00 *Woman Who Had Previously Made Rio Bravo* with rugged star John Wayne, in 1958. (Wayne also filmed *Rio Grande* with John Ford in 1950). The customary shoot-out finale has Colonel Wayne catching up with Confederate gold-robbbers and a couple of traitors to the Union cause.

9.00 *Party Political Broadcast by the Conservatives*.

9.05 *News*, weather with Sue Lawley.

9.30 Our Home's 50th. The Variety Club forces the 50th birthday of boxer-turned-TV personality Harry Cooper, at the London Hilton. Among the names on the table: Tom O'Connor, Bobby Charlton, Terry Wogan, Jimmy Tarbuck, Peter Alliss, Harry Carpenter, and a music hall troupe from the Players Theatre.

10.20 *Sportsworld*. And a busy one for Harry Carpenter, who also presents this soccer-snooker double bill. Home International highlights are from the England v. Wales encounter at Wrexham (where Wales won 4-1 in 1980), while the World Professional snooker championship completes the quarter-final stage at the Crucible, Sheffield. The agenda also includes news about Britain's Olympic team.

12.10 *News* and *headlines*.

12.15 *Closedown*.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 105kHz/285m or 1089kHz/757m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/VHF 88.9MHz. Radio 3/VHF 92.5MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/208m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 649kHz/463m.

CONCERTS

BARNABY HALL, Barbican Centre EC2 01-508 8891. **10.30** *SOVAT'S GIGANTIC INDOOR MUSIC FESTIVAL*, VENUE: Barbican Centre, London EC2. **11.00** *Marriage of Figaro* (r) *Alceste* (r) *Der Rosenkavalier* (r) *Symphony No 3* (r) *Concerto*.

FIRST PUBLIC PERFORMANCE Carl Davis – First public performance on British Soil of his *Glory of the Song*. **19.30** *Incendiary Women* by SACHTI EWERTZ. **19.55** *Scarschach* (r) **20.15** *Winnipeg* with ADRIAN SPARROW. **20.30** *Concerto* No 6 Edward Grieg. **20.45** *Concerto No 7* (r) *Concerto No 8* Edward Grieg. **21.00** *Wednesday Night Concert*.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, 23.00-24.00. **21.00** *SOVAT'S GIGANTIC INDOOR MUSIC FESTIVAL*, VENUE: Barbican Centre, London EC2. **21.30** *Concerto No 2* Edward Grieg. **22.00** *Concerto No 3* Edward Grieg. **22.30** *Concerto No 4* Edward Grieg. **23.00** *Concerto No 5* Edward Grieg. **23.30** *Concerto No 6* Edward Grieg. **24.00** *Concerto No 7* Edward Grieg.

THEATRES **10.30** *ARTS 2122, LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT* (r) **11.00** *ARTS 2122, THE TROJAN WOMAN* (r) **11.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **12.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **12.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **13.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **13.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **14.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **14.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **15.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **15.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **16.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **16.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **17.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **17.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **18.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **18.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **19.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **19.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **20.00** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* (r) **20.30** *ARTS 2122, THE THREEPENNY COIN* 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Miner accuses miner as militant moderates besiege strikers



Man in the middle: Mr Ray Chadburn, the Nottinghamshire miners' leader, speaking at the Mansfield NUM headquarters, where strikers (left) and workers (right) staged rival demonstrations



Thousands of pitmen clash in rival demonstrations

Continued from page 1

when police stopped miners' cars on the A38 near the Derbyshire border and stones were thrown.

About 1,000 police were involved in controlling the two demonstrations and they lined up three deep to keep the two sides apart as union officials claimed that the strikers were being starved back to work.

The non-striking miners thronged behind a wire fence of a park only 50 yards from the Union building and some stones were hurled from each side. A bicycle chain thrown from the balcony narrowly missed a policeman and later a miner behind the fence was seen being led away with blood streaming from a head wound. Banners were waved; insults, jeers and abuse were offered by both sides in a crescendo of sound, but police said there were no arrests.

The non-strikers' rally was organized after repeated attempts by the frustrated area executive to get all the men to join the strike, and visits by Mr Arthur Scargill, the union president, to implore them to stop work.

After the rally, striking miners claimed that the coal board had encouraged men still

working to take a rest day so that they could join the anti-strike rally, and claimed also that coal board buses had been used to ferry the men to the rally.

The coal board said it was up to the miners when they took a rest day, and denied that it had anything to do with the rally, or getting to it.

● The port of Wivenhoe in north-east Essex was brought to a halt yesterday when more than 100 miners and Essex University students blocked the entrance to the wharf where coal from Europe is being unloaded. There were 69 arrests.

● Britain's second largest union is to urge the TUC to call a day of action in support of the pits strike. The "May Day" resolution was carried unanimously yesterday by the 52-member National Committee of the engineering section of the million-strong Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

● Hampshire Police have chartered a Boeing 737 to fly 120 officers to picket lines in the Nottinghamshire coalfields.

Letters, page 11



Faces of conflict: Non-striking miners surge at a fence and a working pitman's head bleeds (Photographs: Brian Harris)

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh open the International Garden Festival, Liverpool, 11.30, and later open the new Liverpool City House, 3.

The Duke of Edinburgh as President of the World Wildlife Fund International, visits Austria; departs Heathrow, 6.35.

Princess Anne attends the Annual Conference of the Royal British Legion, Women's Section at the Royal Hotel, Winter Gardens, Blackpool, Lancs, 2.30.

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, Honorary Colonel, dines with the Officers Past and Present of the London Scottish Regiment at the Caledonian Club, 7.30.

Princess Margaret attends a Reception given by the Air League at Martini Terrace, New Zealand

House to mark their 75th anniversary, 6.40.

The Duchess of Kent attends a Gala Concert in aid of the Elizabethan Homes, the Royal Overseas League, Overseas House, Park Lane, London SW1, 7.50.

Princess Michael of Kent attends Admission Ceremonies on becoming a Liverman of the Goldsmith's Company, Goldsmith's Hall, EC2, 11.

Princess Alexandra, President, attends the Centenary Thanksgiving Service of the Children's Country Fund, Held in the Guard's Chapel, SW1, 11.55; and later attends the second "Sir John Kemble Memorial Lecture" in aid of PHAB (Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied), at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, 21 Albemarle Street, WI, 5.45.

New exhibitions

Antrim Coast, 1777-1984: engravings, watercolours and oils, Bell Gallery, 13 Adelaide Park, Belfast; Mon to Fri 9 to 5, Sat 10 to 12.45, closed Sun (ends May 31).

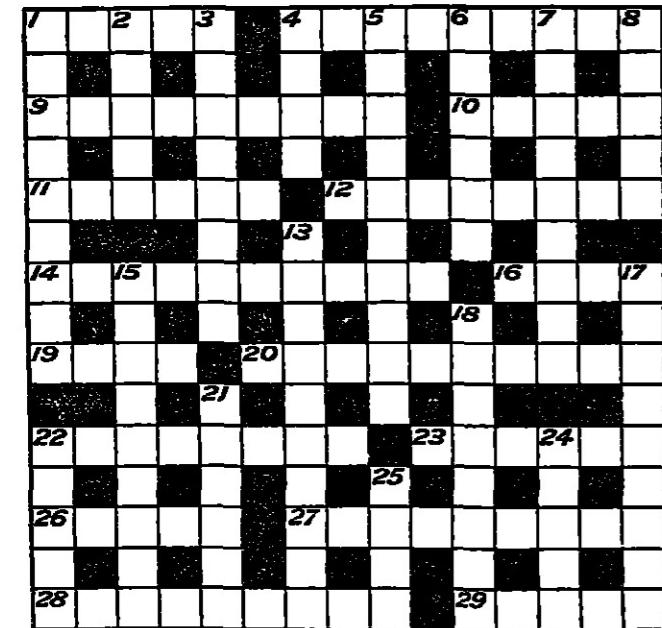
Exhibitions of works by members of the Bloomsbury Group on loan from the Royal West of England Academy, Wiltshire Museum, Glastonbury, 41 Long Street, Devizes, Wilts; 10.30-5pm, Mon-Sat, closed Sun and Mon (ends May 31). 125 Years of Sculpture, as part of the International Garden Festival, Sefton, Liverpool; Today from 2.30 to dusk, thereafter from 10 to dusk; Mon to Sun (7 days per week) (ends October 14).

Recent Works by Robert Jenkins, the Ginner Gallery, Lloyds House, 16 Lloyd Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 9 to 5, Thurs 9 to 8, Closed Sat and Sun (ends May 25).

Geoffrey Key exhibition, Looking Glass Gallery, Modern Arts, 53 Halifax Road, Todmorden; Tues to Sat 10 to 5.30 (closed Sun & Mon - ends May 26).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,419

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 7 per cent of the competitors at this year's Glasgow regional final of the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship.



Births

Alessandro Scarlatti, composer, Palermo, Italy, 1660; Novak (pseudonym of Friedrich Freiherr von Hardenberg), poet, Oberwiederstedt, Germany, 1772.

Michaelangelo, his Life, Work, and Times, by Linda Murray (Thames & Hudson, £14.95).

Six Centuries of Verse, selected and introduced by Anthony Thwaite (Methuen, £6.95).

The Abys, a novel by Marguerite Yourcenar, translated by Grace Frick and the author (Aidan Ellis, £2.95).

The Haunted Mind, by Hallam Tennyson (Andre Deutsch, £12.95).

The Lords of Limit, Essays on Literature and Ideas, by Geoffrey Hill (Andre Deutsch, £12.95).

The Weaker Vessel, Woman's Lot in Seventeenth Century England, by Antonia Fraser (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95).

New Books - Hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week

Engineering Profession, Volume Two 1911-41, by Victor Bonham-Carter (The Bodley Head, £12.50).

Casement, the Flawed Hero, by Roger Sawyer (Routledge & Kegan Paul, £12.50).

Finding the Centre, by V. S. Naipaul (Andre Deutsch, £7.95).

Michelangelo, his Life, Work, and Times, by Linda Murray (Thames & Hudson, £14.95).

Romeo Britain, by Plantagenet Somerset Fry (David & Charles, £14.95).

Sex Centuries of Verse, selected and introduced by Anthony Thwaite (Methuen, £6.95).

The Abys, a novel by Marguerite Yourcenar, translated by Grace Frick and the author (Aidan Ellis, £2.95).

The Haunted Mind, by Hallam Tennyson (Andre Deutsch, £12.95).

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